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# 2019-2020 Illinois Trapper Report: Harvest, Effort, and Trapper Opinions



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Harvest, Effort, and Trapper Opinions

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HUMAN DIMENSIONS RESEARCH PROGRAM

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Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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<sup>a</sup> WMU = Wildlife Management Unit

<sup>b</sup> FMZ = Furbearer Management Zones

## ABSTRACT

We sampled 1,200 of 2020 resident Illinois trapping license purchasers from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources licensing database. Licensees were mailed an 8-page questionnaire, and we received 745 (63%) questionnaires. Trapping license sales increased 4.4% from 2018-19 (6,416 licenses) to 2019-20 (6,698). Trappers set an average of 15.0 traps for an average of 27.8 days or nights during the 2019-20 season and harvested an estimated 129,689 furbearers (up 1.3% from the 127,990 harvested in 2018-19). An estimated 67,915 raccoons (*Procyon lotor*) were trapped during the 2019-20 Illinois trapping season, an increase of 7.5% from the estimated 63,179 trapped during the 2018-19 season. Opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*) harvest was the next highest at 16,255 opossums (8.8% decrease from the previous year).

## OBJECTIVE

To survey furbearer (13 species of mammals) trappers annually to determine their activities, harvests, characteristics, and opinions in Illinois.

## METHODS

A random sample of 1,200 resident Illinois trappers who purchased a trapper license (2019-20) was selected from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' (IDNR) license sales database. Each trapper was mailed an 8-page questionnaire (Appendix A), cover letter (Appendix B), and a postage-paid return envelope on 15 April 2020. The initial sample of 1,200 licenses was reduced to 1,179 due to undeliverable addresses. Nonrespondents were mailed a thank you/reminder postcard (Appendix C) on 15 May 2020. Remaining non-respondents were mailed a second questionnaire and cover letter (Appendix D) on 04 June 2020. Trappers who did not respond to the previous mailings were mailed a second thank you/reminder postcard on 26 June 2020. A third final questionnaire and cover letter (Appendix D) were sent on 16 July 2020. Season date information can be found in Appendix E.

## RESULTS

A total of 745 license purchasers responded with usable questionnaires, resulting in a 63% response rate. Using procedures adopted by Anderson and Campbell (1992), we calculated trapper participation and harvest for all furbearer species in Illinois (Tables 1-27). The results were organized by wildlife management units (WMUs, Appendix F), furbearer management zones, and statewide for presentation.

### *Trapper Participation*

Of the 745 license purchasers in our sample, 378 (50.7%) set traps for furbearers in Illinois during the 2019-20 season (Figure 1). There were slightly more trappers in the north zone than the south (Figure 2). Active trappers set an average of 15.0 traps for an average of 27.8 days or nights (Figure 3). Maximum number of days a trapper could have trapped was 142 (Appendix E); 27.4% set traps for > 30 days and 14.6% of trappers set traps for > 50 days (Figure 4).

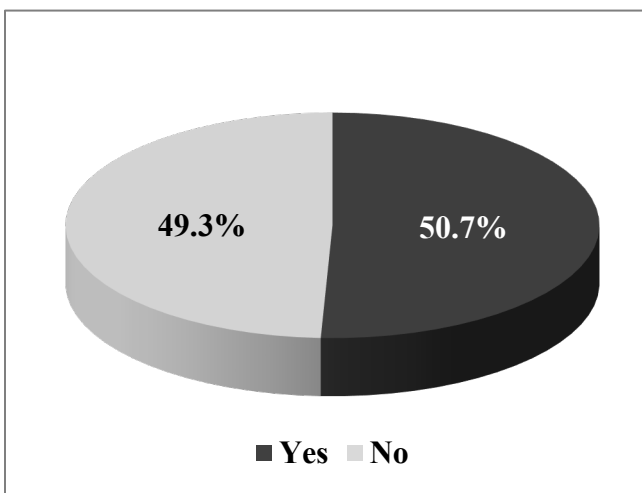


Figure 1. License purchasers that set traps for furbearers in Illinois during the 2019-20 trapping season ( $n = 745$ ).

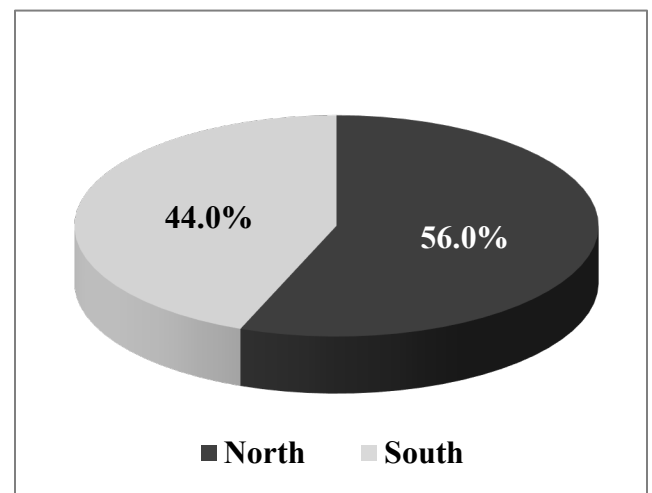


Figure 2. Distribution of active trappers by zones in Illinois ( $n = 430$ ).

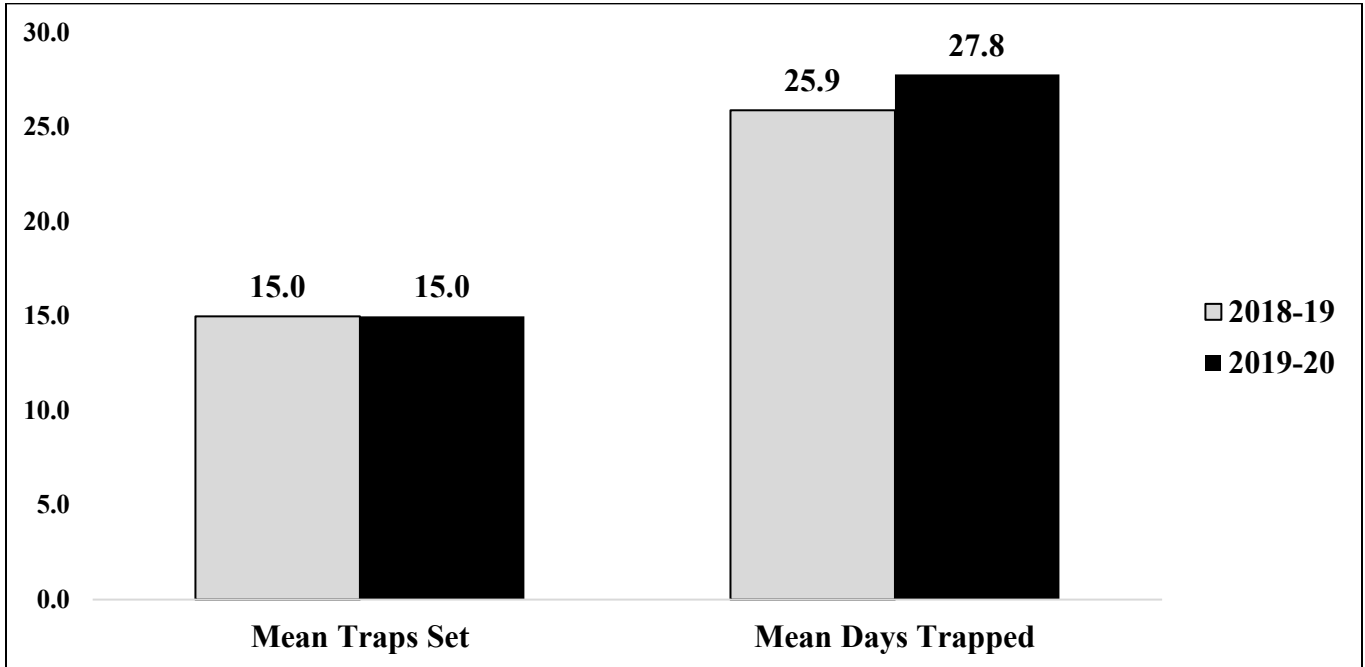


Figure 3. Comparison of trapping activity reported in 2019-20 and 2018-19 Illinois Trapper Survey.

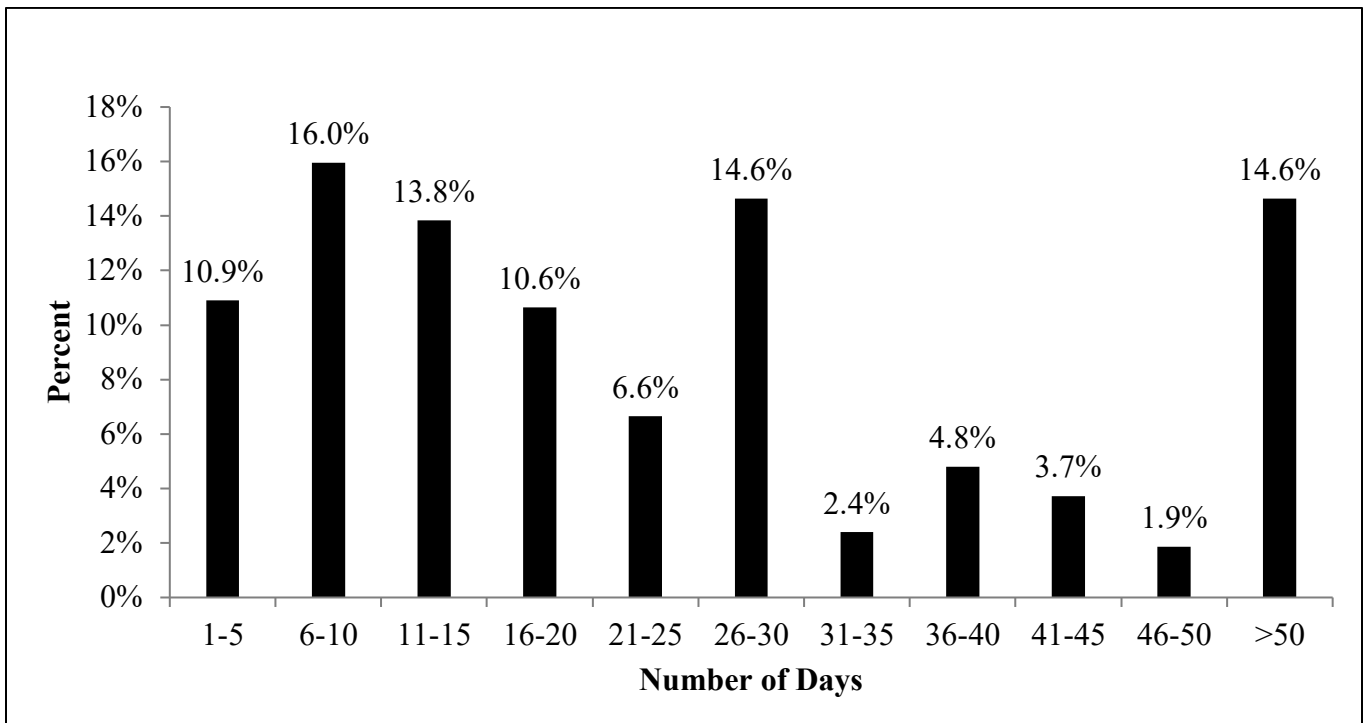


Figure 4. Distribution of days of trapping by active trappers in Illinois, 2019-20 season ( $n = 376$ ).



Participation during the 2019-20 season was highest among raccoon trappers, estimated at 2,679 successful trappers statewide (Table 3), a decrease of 3.6% from the 2018-19 trapping season. Opossum trapping was second with 1,421 successful trappers, followed by beaver (*Castor canadensis*; 1,268 successful trappers), muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*; 1,241 successful trappers), coyote (*Canis latrans*; 1,160 successful trappers), striped skunks (*Mephitis mephitis*; 674 successful trappers), and otter (*Lontra canadensis*; 584 successful trappers). Mink (*Neovison vison*; 512 successful trappers), red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*; 333 successful trappers), bobcat (*Lynx rufus*; 180 successful trappers), badger (*Taxidea taxus*; 54 successful trappers), gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*; 9 successful trappers), and weasel (*Mustela frenata* and *nivalis*; 0 successful trappers) were the least often trapped species.

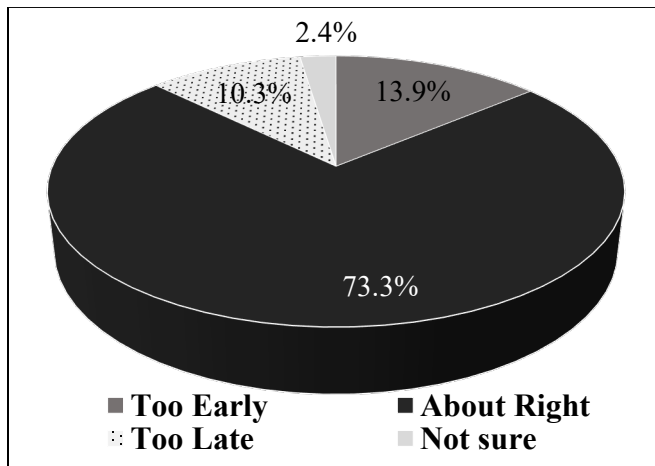


Figure 5. South Zone trappers' opinion of the 2019-20 opening date. \*Selected for those who spent at least 1 day trapping in 2019-20 ( $n = 165$ ).

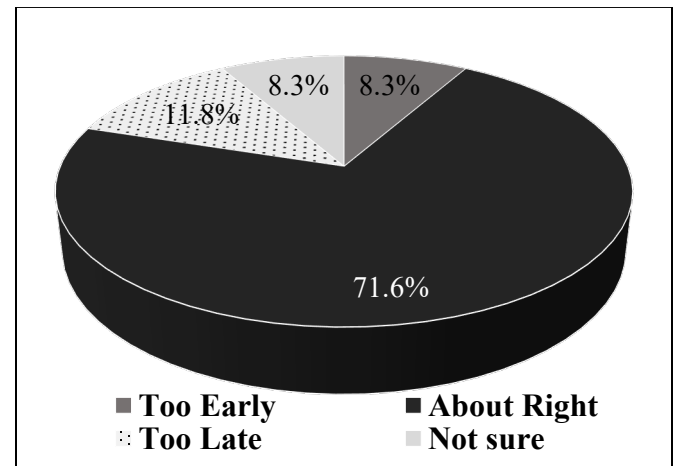


Figure 6. North Zone trappers' opinion of the 2019-20 opening date. \*Selected for those who spent at least 1 day trapping in 2019-20 ( $n = 204$ ).

Trappers that spent at least one day trapping were asked to give their opinion of the timing of opening and closing dates in the zone they hunted most often. Seventy-three percent of trappers in the southern zone said that the opening date was about right (Figure 5), as compared to 71.6% in the northern zone (Figure 6). Most southern zone trappers (64.2%) felt the closing dates were about right, and 29.0% indicated it was too early (Figure 7). Most northern zone trappers (62.5%) felt the closing dates were about right (Figure 8).

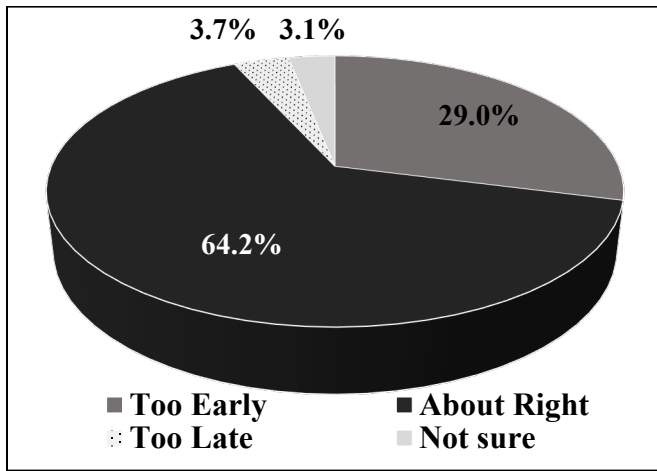


Figure 7. South Zone trappers' opinion of the 2019-20 closing date. \*Selected for those who spent at least 1 day trapping in 2019-20 ( $n = 162$ ).

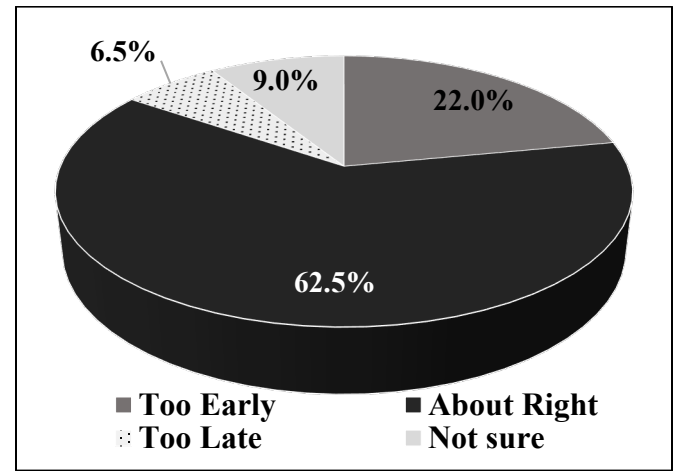


Figure 8. North Zone trappers' opinion of the 2019-20 closing date. \*Selected for those who spent at least 1 day trapping in 2019-20 ( $n = 200$ ).

### *Harvest*

An estimated 67,915 raccoons were trapped by trappers during the 2019-20 Illinois trapping season (Table 3), which was an increase of 7.5% from the estimated 63,179 trapped during the 2018-19 season. Opossum harvest at 16,255 opossums trapped (8.8% decrease from previous year) was next highest followed by muskrat (16,111; 0.2% increase from previous year), beaver (10,357; the same as the previous year), coyote (10,258; 12.9% decrease from previous year), striped skunk (4,109; 0.8% decrease from previous year), and mink (1,097; 27.0% decrease from previous year). The number of muskrats harvested averaged 12.99 per trapper and ranged from 1-82 (Figure 9), and the number of raccoons harvested averaged 25.35 per trapper and ranged from 1-250 (Figure 10). Confidence intervals (95%) for trapper participation and harvest of each species are presented in Table 3.

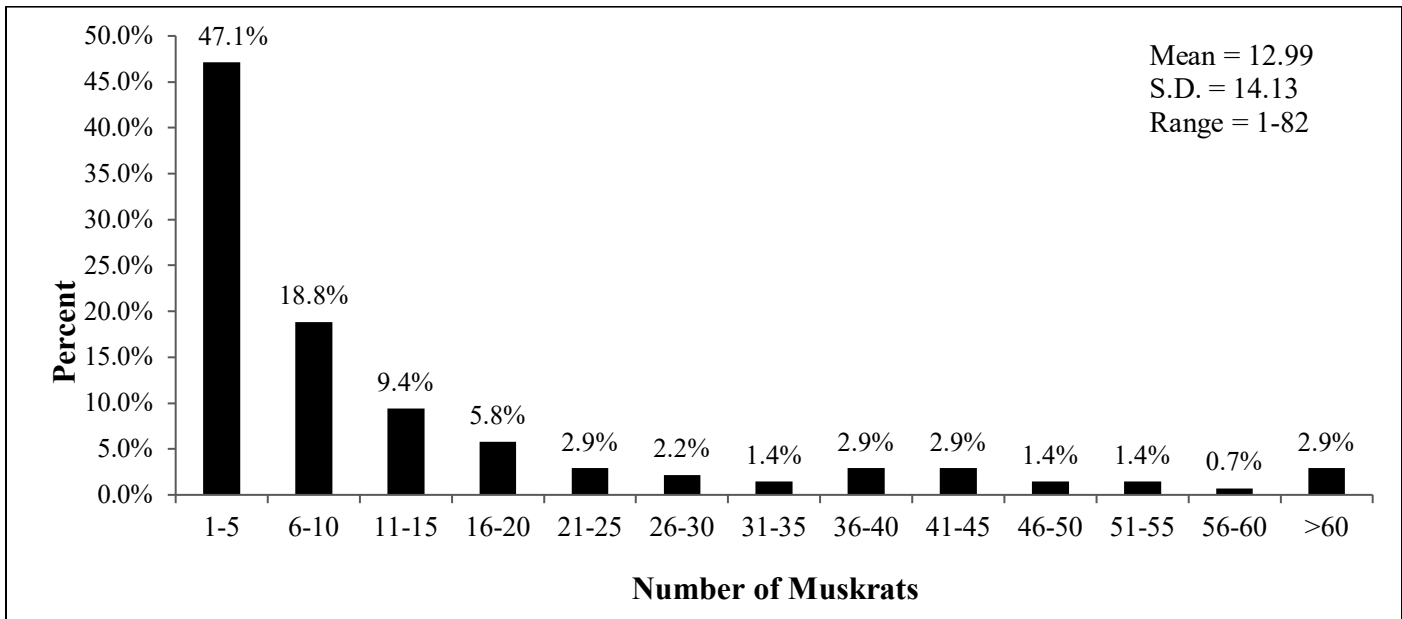


Figure 9. Distribution of the number of muskrats trapped per successful muskrat trapper in Illinois, 2019-20 season ( $n = 138$ ).

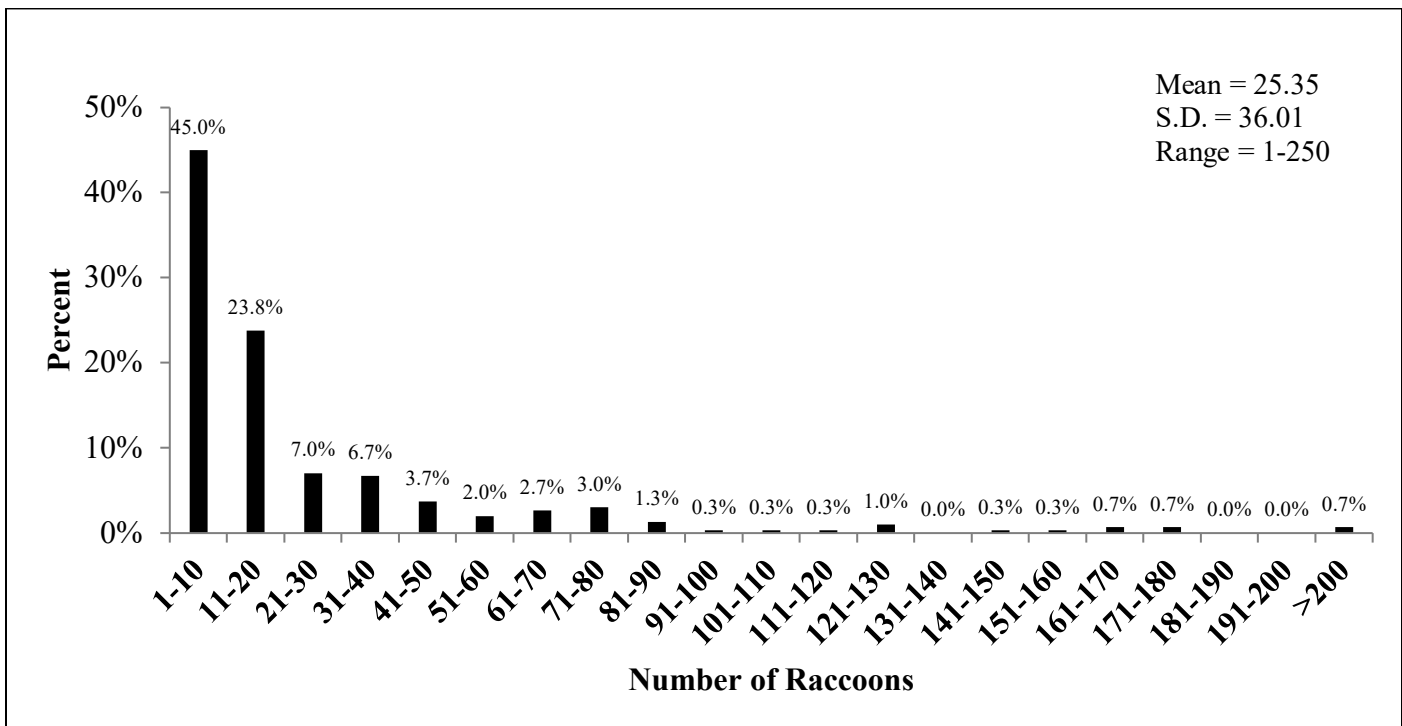


Figure 10. Distribution of the number of raccoons trapped per successful raccoon trapper in Illinois, 2019-20 season ( $n = 298$ ).

Harvest and trapping effort for each species are reported by wildlife management units and furbearer management zones in Tables 4-29. The estimated number of pelts sold in 2019-20 is presented by species in Table 30. The trends in statewide harvests of furbearers for the previous 10 years are listed in Table 31.

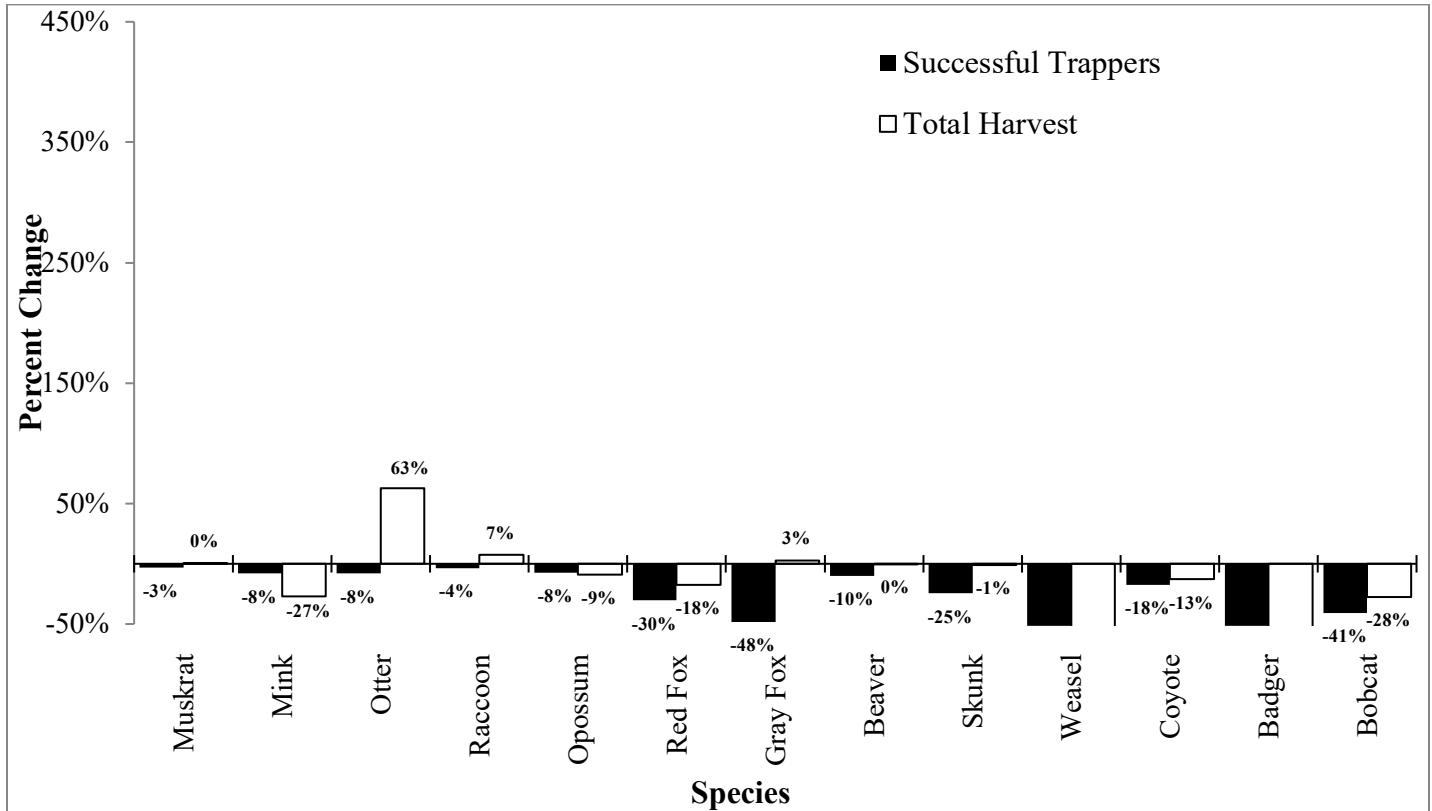


Figure 11. Percent change in number of successful trappers and harvest by species between 2018-19 and 2019-20 license years.

### *Changes in Trapper Participation and Harvest*

The number of Illinois residents participating in trapping increased 4.4% in 2019-20 to (6,698 licenses) from 2018-19 (6,416 licenses). Average season harvest per trapper increased for gray fox, otter, striped skunk, bobcat, red fox, raccoon, beaver, coyote, and muskrat. Estimated total harvest increased for otter, raccoon, and gray fox. The largest increases in total harvest were for otter (62.6%) followed by raccoon (7.5%), and gray fox (2.9%; Figure 11). Changes in trapper harvest over the past ten years (2009-2019) for each species type and all species are shown in Figures 12-23. Ten-year trends for otter and bobcat harvest data have not yet been established and are not included in the listed figures.

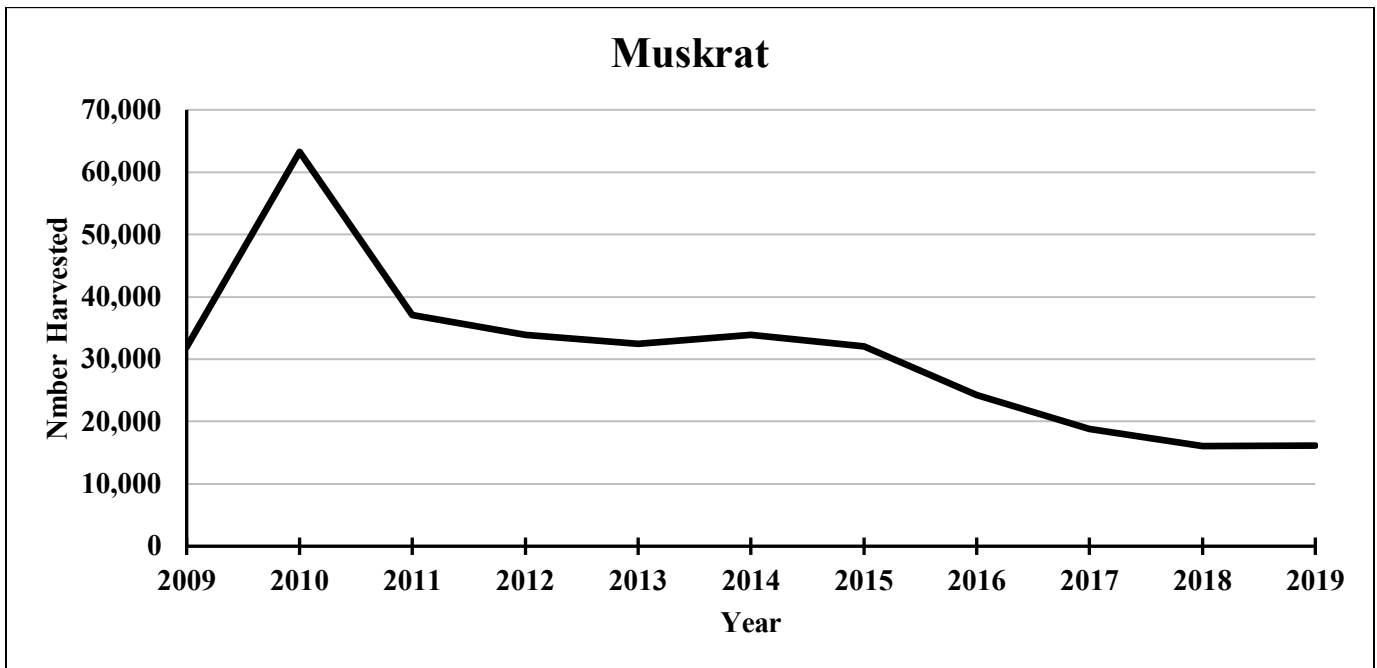


Figure 12. Muskrat harvest 2009 to 2019.

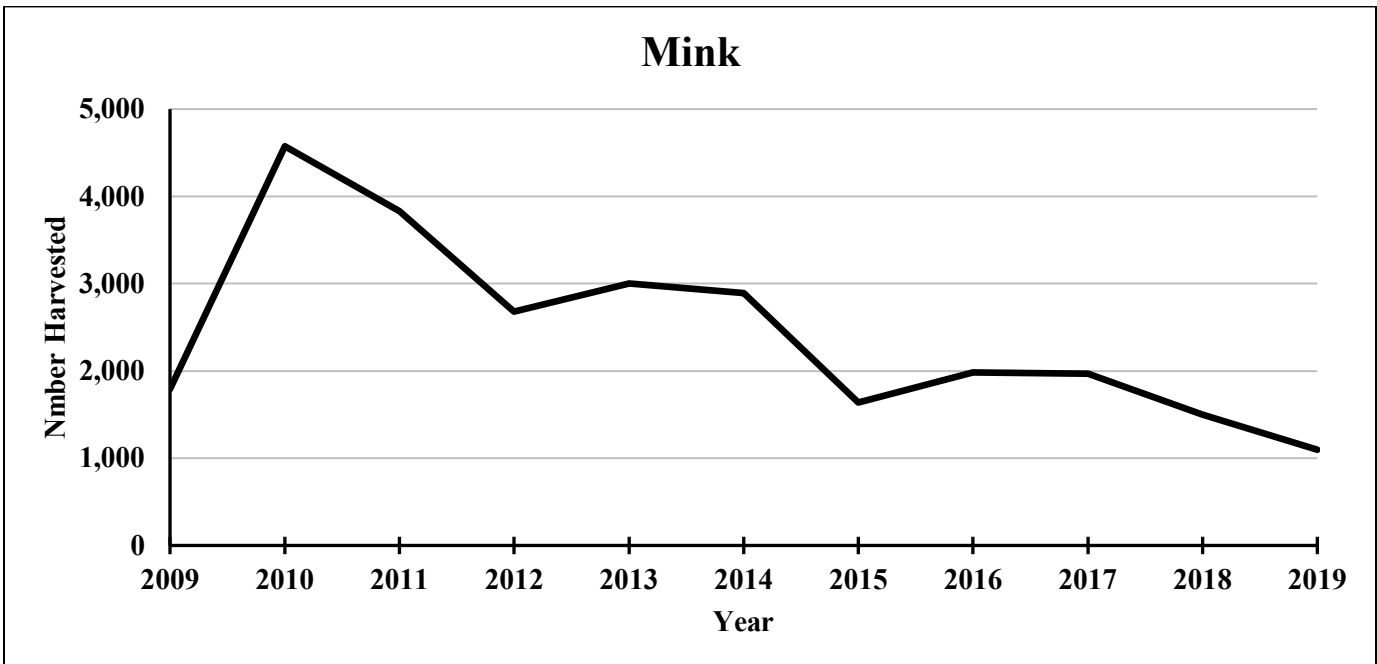


Figure 13. Mink harvest 2009 to 2019.

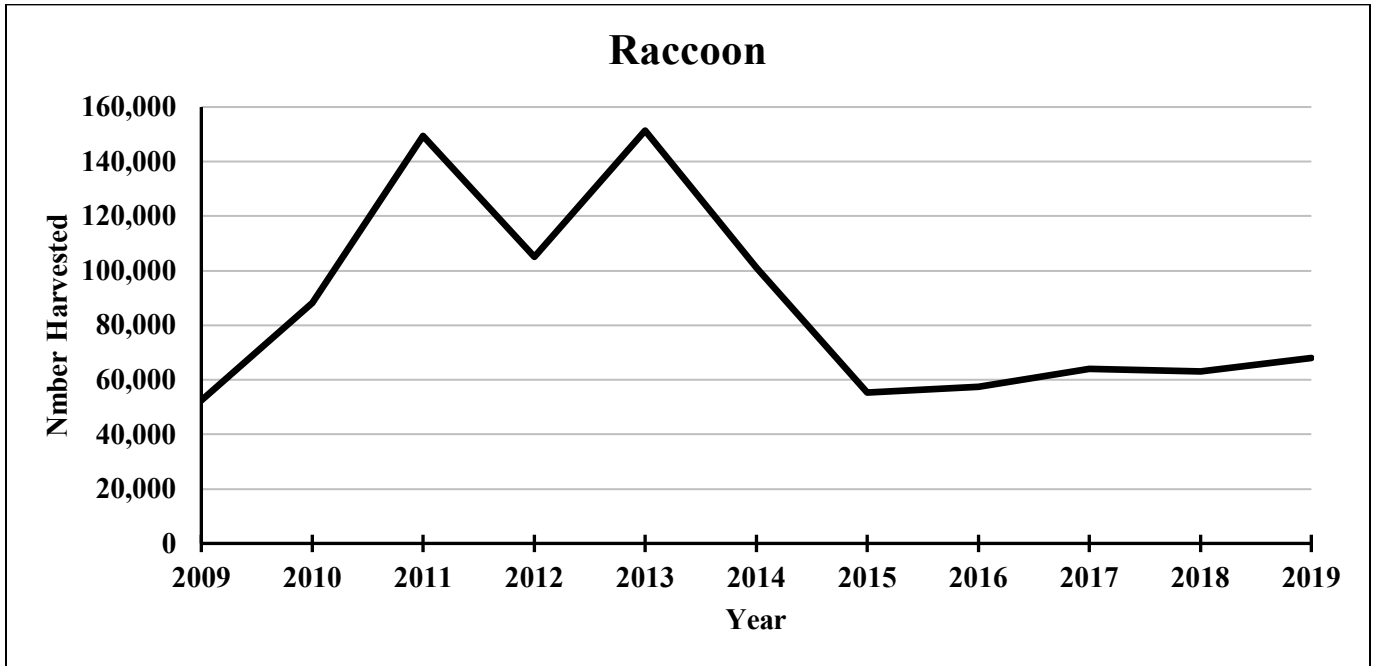


Figure 14. Raccoon harvest 2009 to 2019.

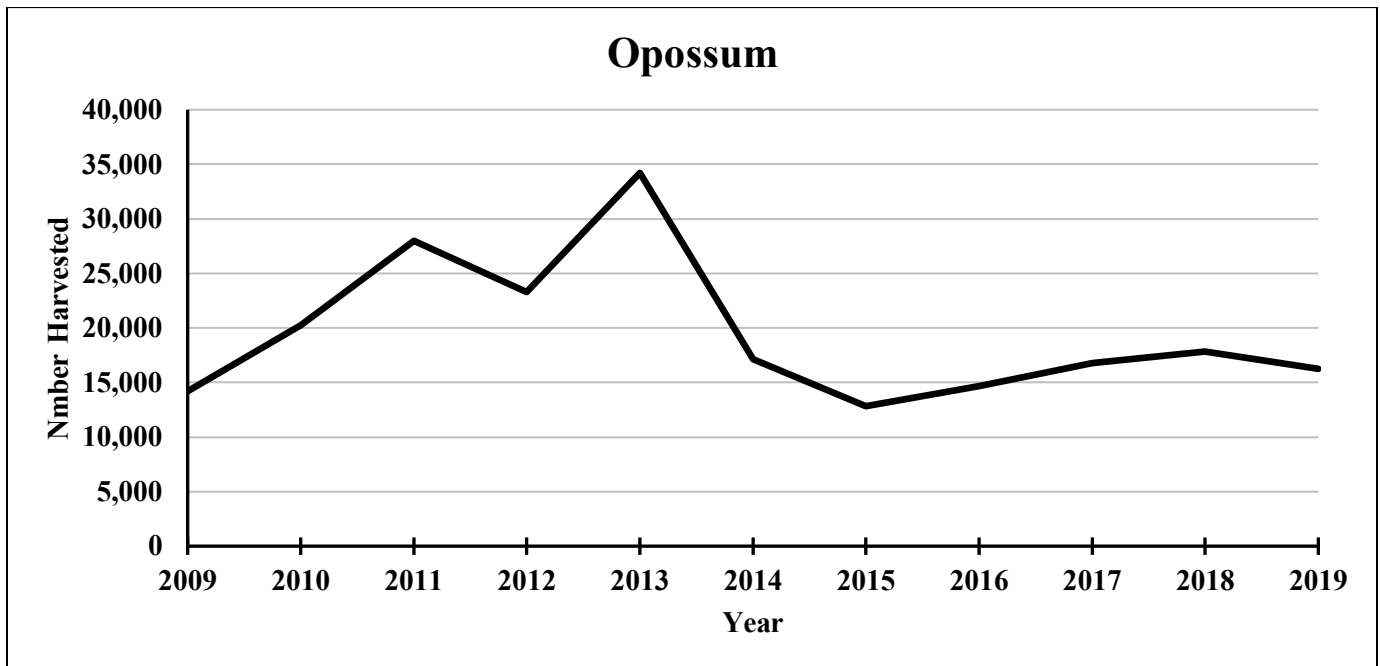


Figure 15. Opossum harvest 2009 to 2019.

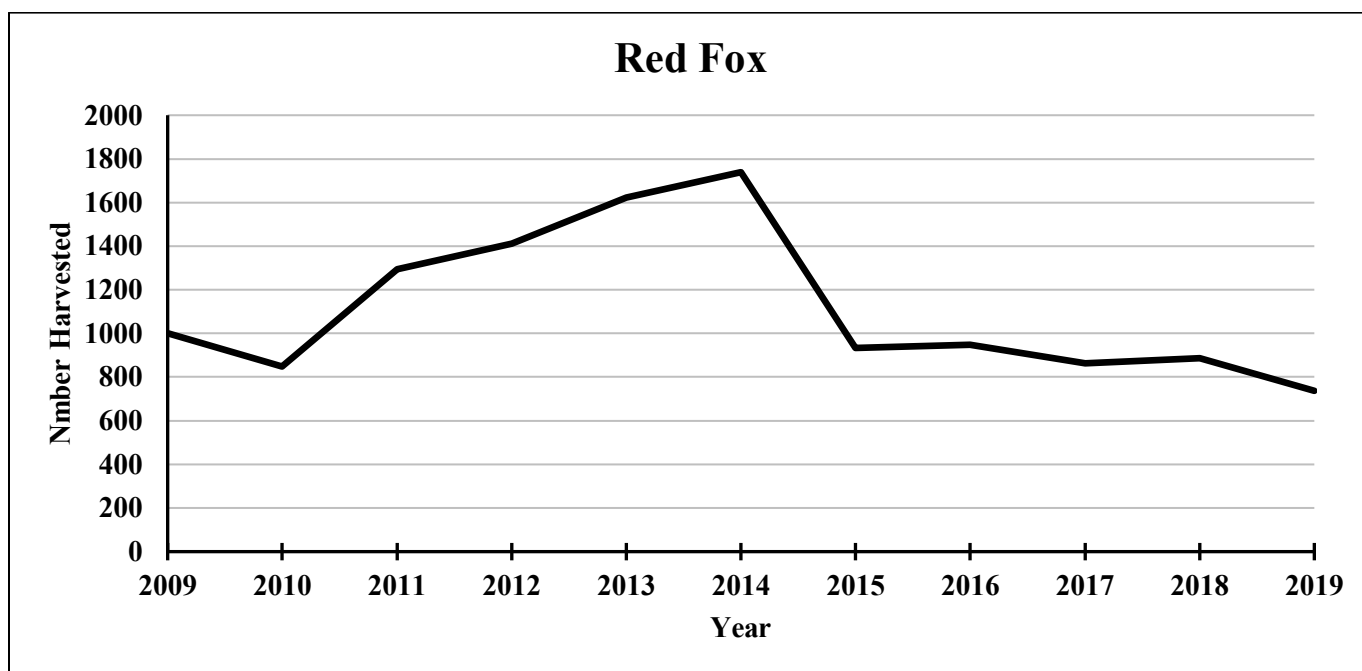


Figure 16. Red Fox harvest 2009 to 2019.

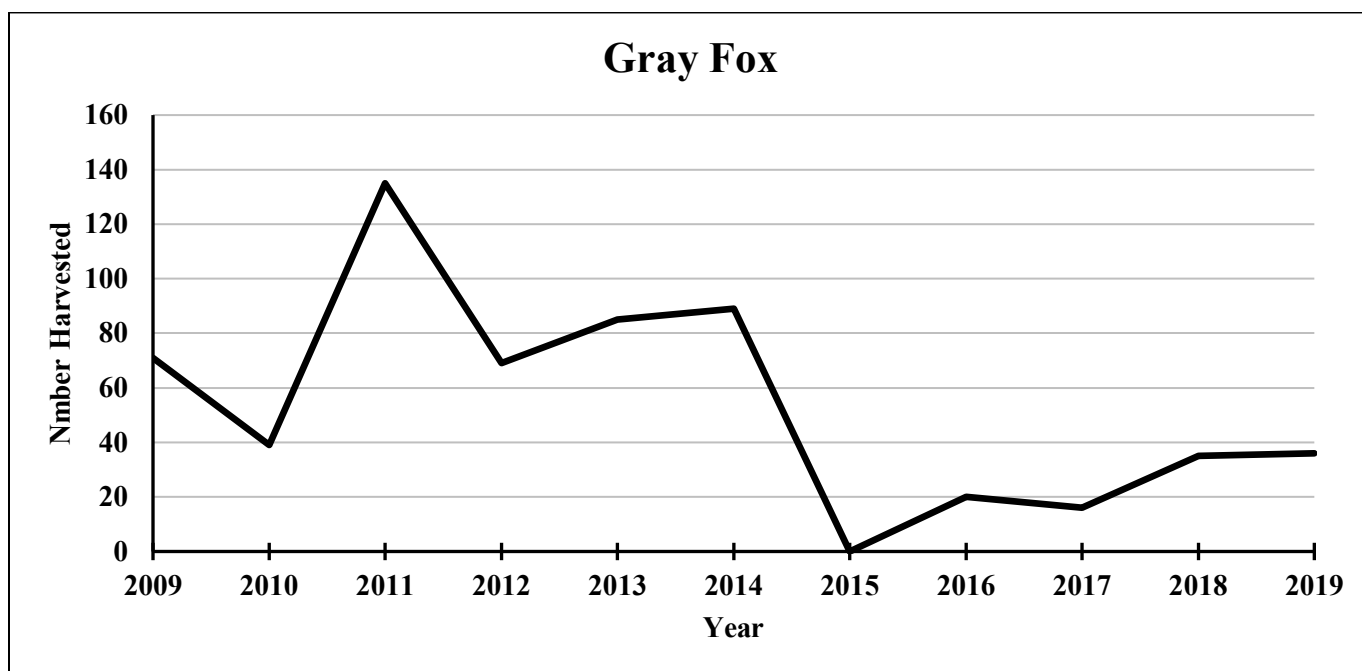


Figure 17. Gray Fox harvest 2009 to 2019.

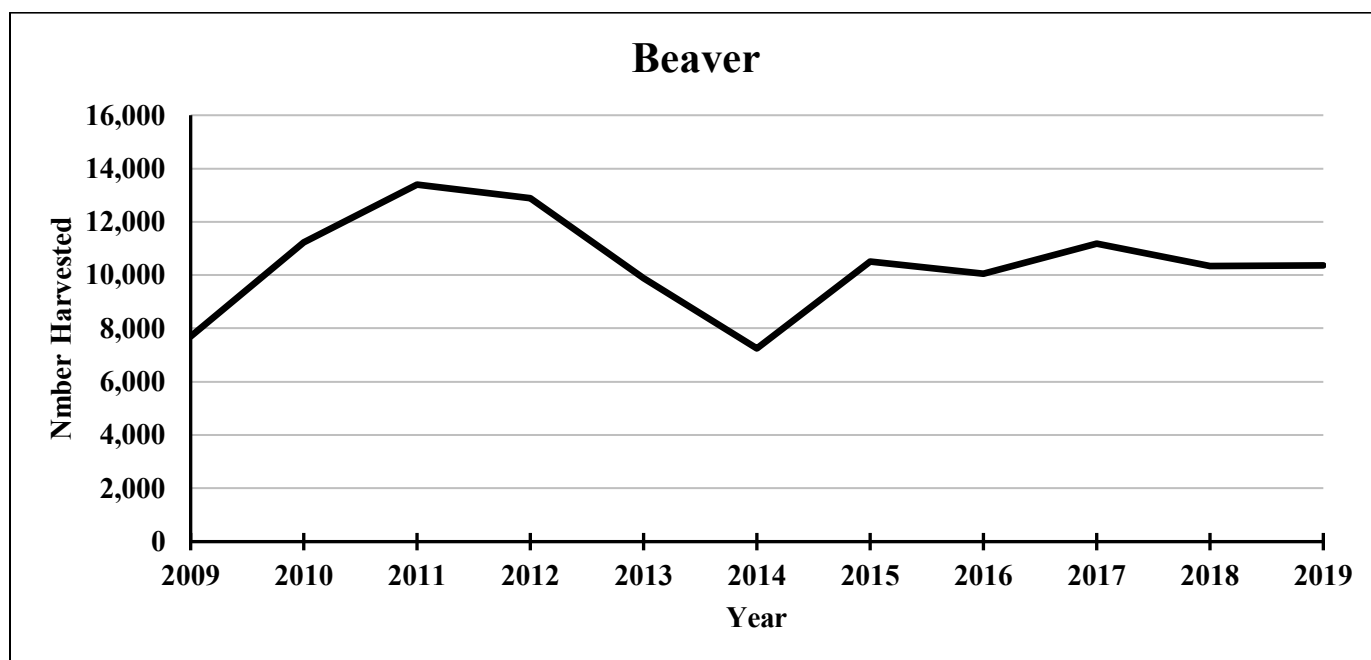


Figure 18. Beaver harvest 2009 to 2019.

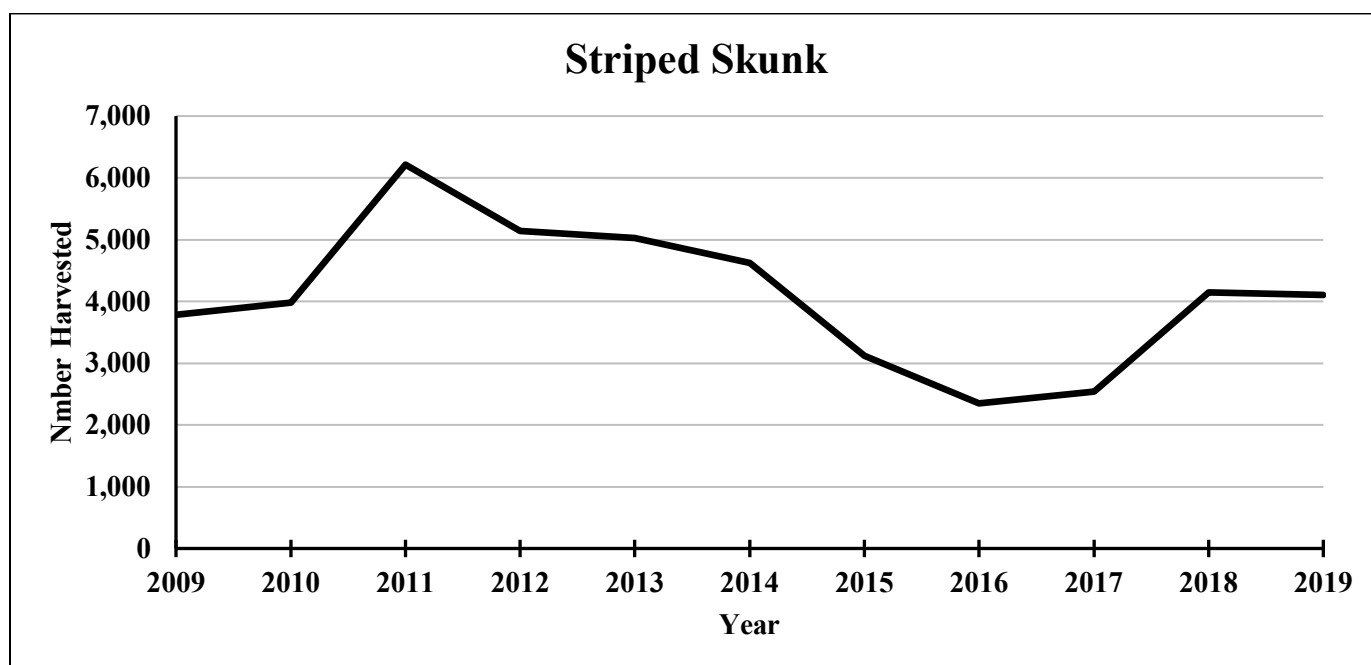


Figure 19. Striped Skunk harvest 2009 to 2019.



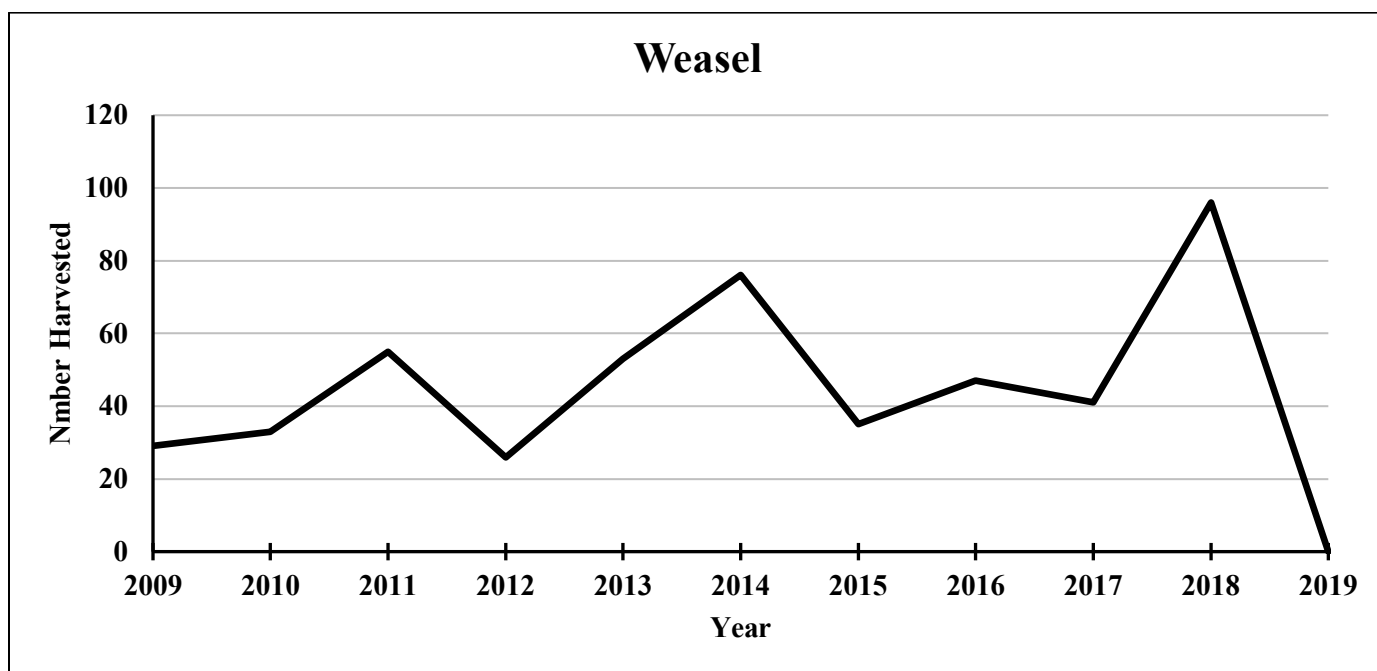


Figure 20. Weasel harvest 2009 to 2019.

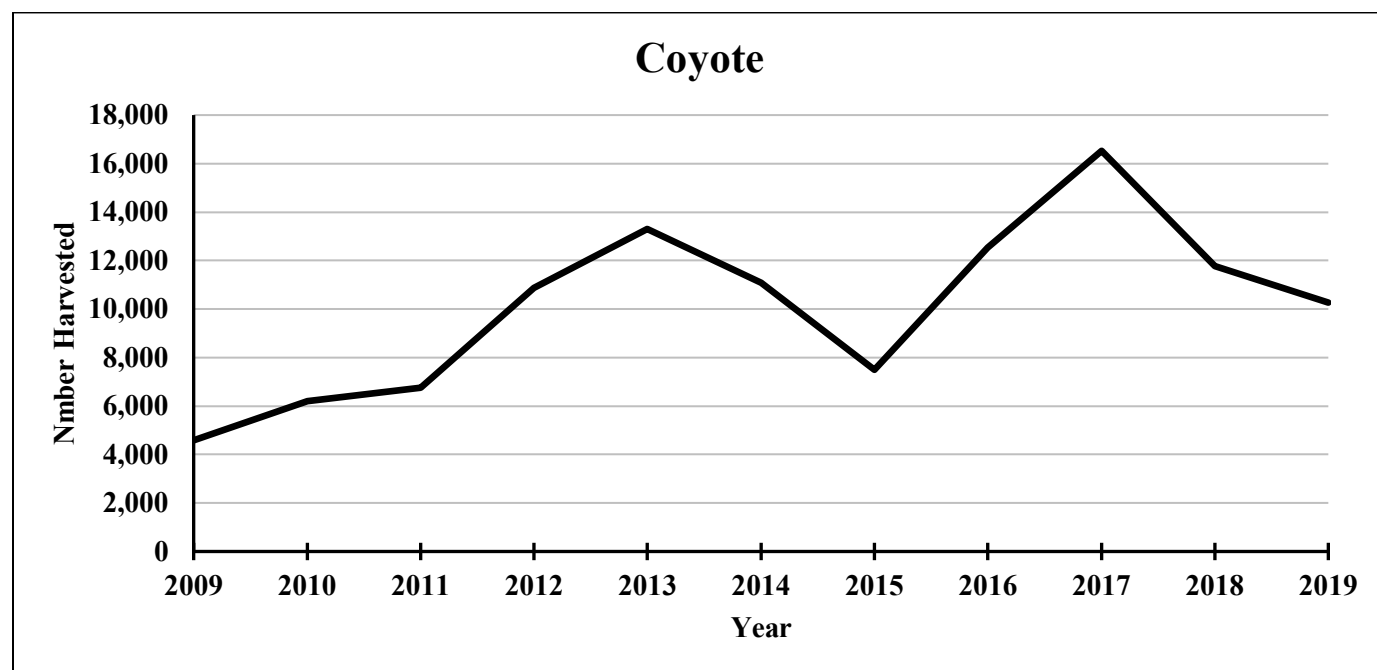


Figure 21. Coyote harvest 2009 to 2019.

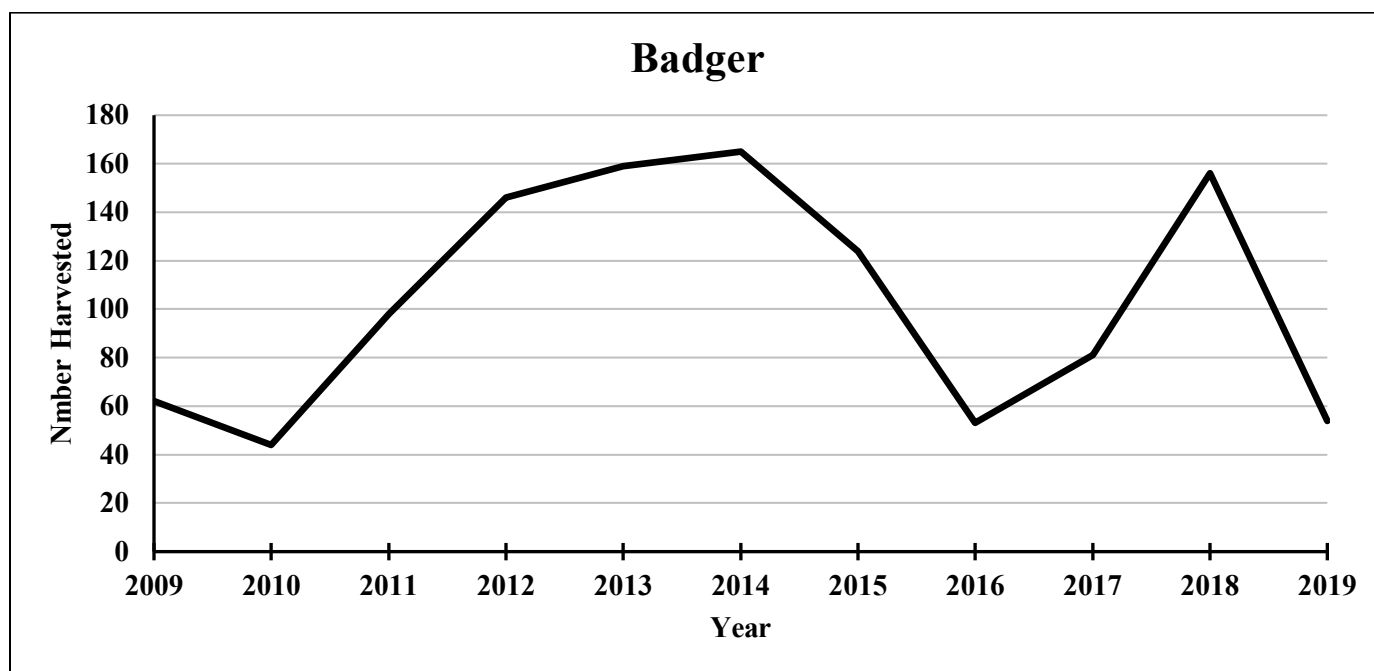


Figure 22. Badger harvest 2009 to 2019.

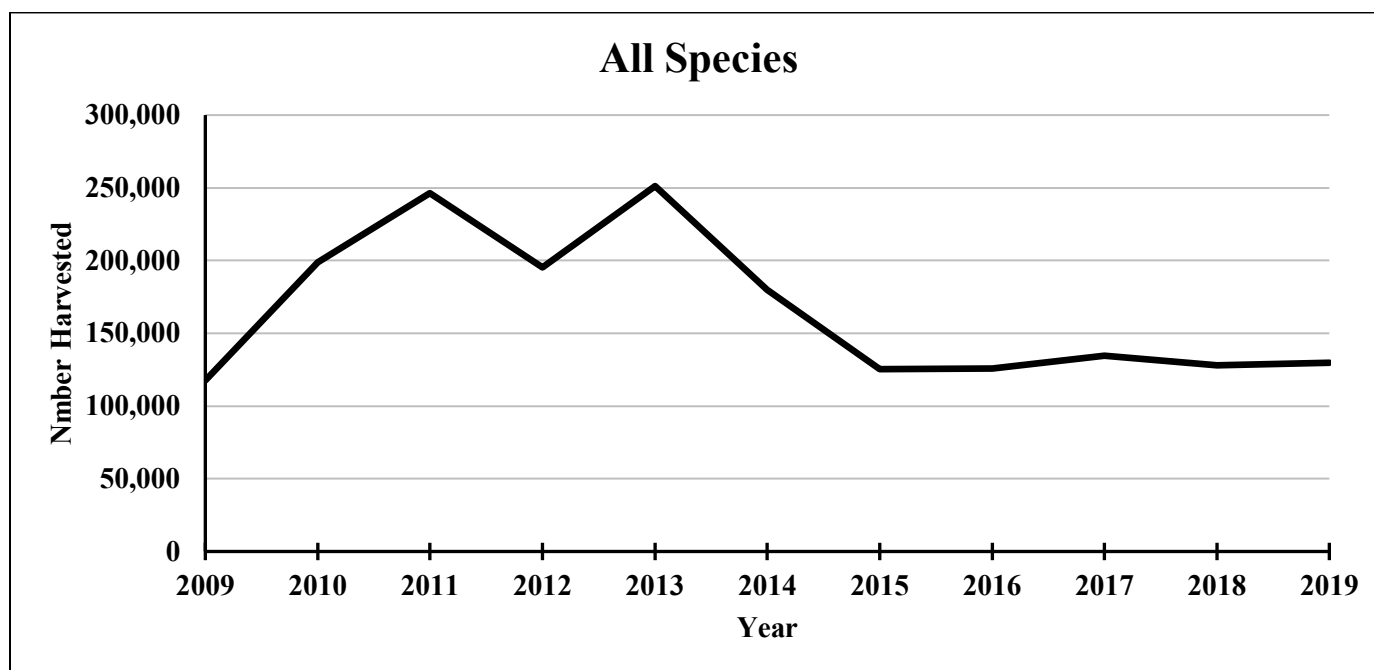


Figure 23. All species' harvest 2009 to 2019. \*Years 2014 and prior do not include otter harvest and years prior to 2017 do not include bobcat.

### ***Fur Hunting by Trappers***

A total of 109 trappers, 24.1% of respondents, reported hunting furbearers with a gun and/or dogs in 2019-20 (Figure 24), and 22.9% of those who hunted furbearers used a dog. There were an estimated 2,200 trapper license purchasers who hunted furbearers in 2019-20. Their total harvest was estimated to be 11,958 furbearers or an average of 12.2 furbearers per hunter (Table 32). More trappers hunted raccoon and coyotes than any other species.

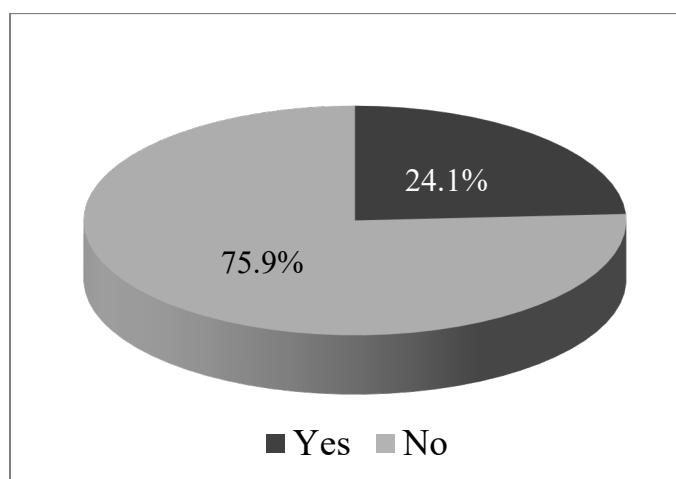


Figure 24. Trappers that hunted furbearers with a gun and/or dogs in Illinois during the 2019-20 season ( $n = 452$ ).

### ***Badger Sightings***

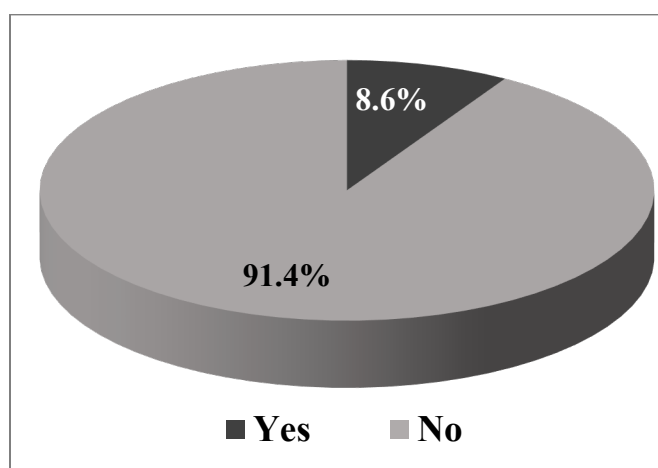


Figure 25. Trappers that sighted badgers in Illinois during 2019-20 trapping season ( $n = 720$ ).

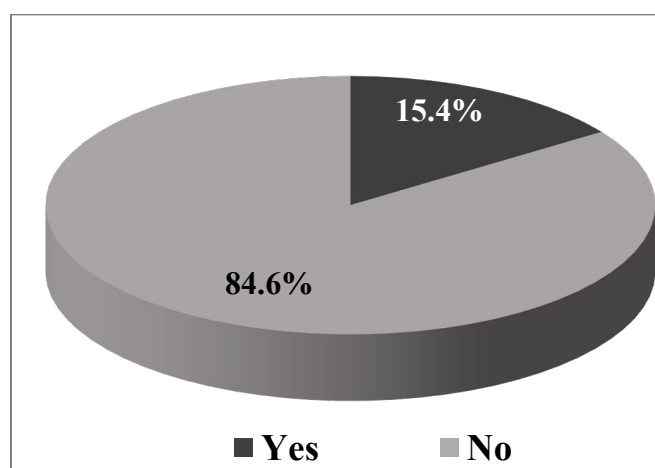


Figure 26. Trappers that sighted signs of badgers in Illinois during 2019-20 trapping season ( $n = 707$ ).

Trappers were asked to identify if they had seen any badgers or signs of badgers in Illinois during the 2019-20 trapping season. Almost nine percent of license purchasers sighted an actual badger (Figure 25), and 15.4% of trappers claimed to see signs of badgers (Figure 26). Logan, Mason, Whiteside, McLean, and Pike were the counties reported most often for sightings of actual badgers. The counties most often reported for signs of badgers were Logan, Whiteside, McLean, Mason, and Stephenson counties (Table 33).

### ***Trapping Motivations***

When asked to identify all their motivations for trapping, controlling wildlife populations and recreational purposes/lifestyles were indicated as influencing factors by over forty percent of the respondents (Figure 27). Financial incentive was the least selected influencing factor at 6.3%. “To control wildlife populations” (47.7%) was the most selected option for the number one reason for trapping in Illinois followed by “recreational purposes/lifestyle” (41.1%). “Financial incentive” (2.1%) was the least selected number one motivation for trapping in Illinois (Figure 28) and “To control wildlife populations” was the most selected at thirty-six percent. Trappers were also asked to identify the level of importance for several reasons to trap. Those who trapped in 2019-20 identified all possible factors as having a greater level of importance than those who did not hunt (Table 34). The most important reasons among both groups were “to remove nuisance animals” and “to control predator populations”.

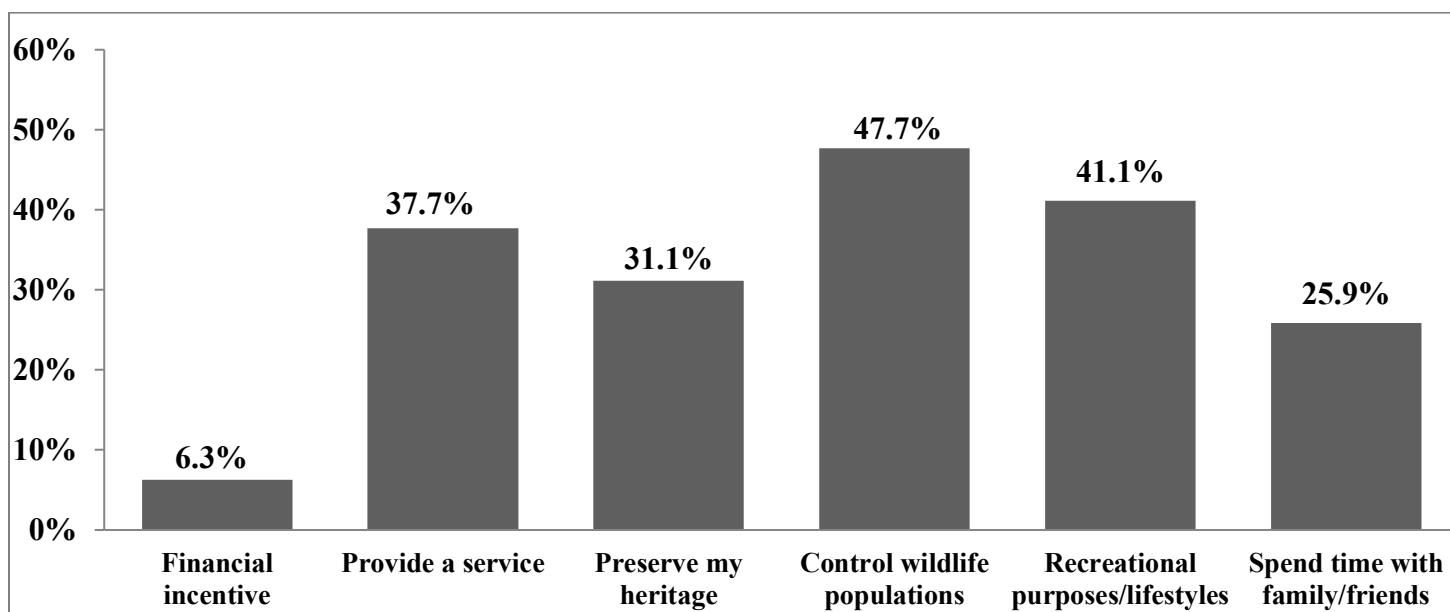


Figure 27. Motivations\* for participating in trapping in Illinois ( $n = 745$ ).

\*Percentages are greater than 100% because trappers were able to select more than one motive.

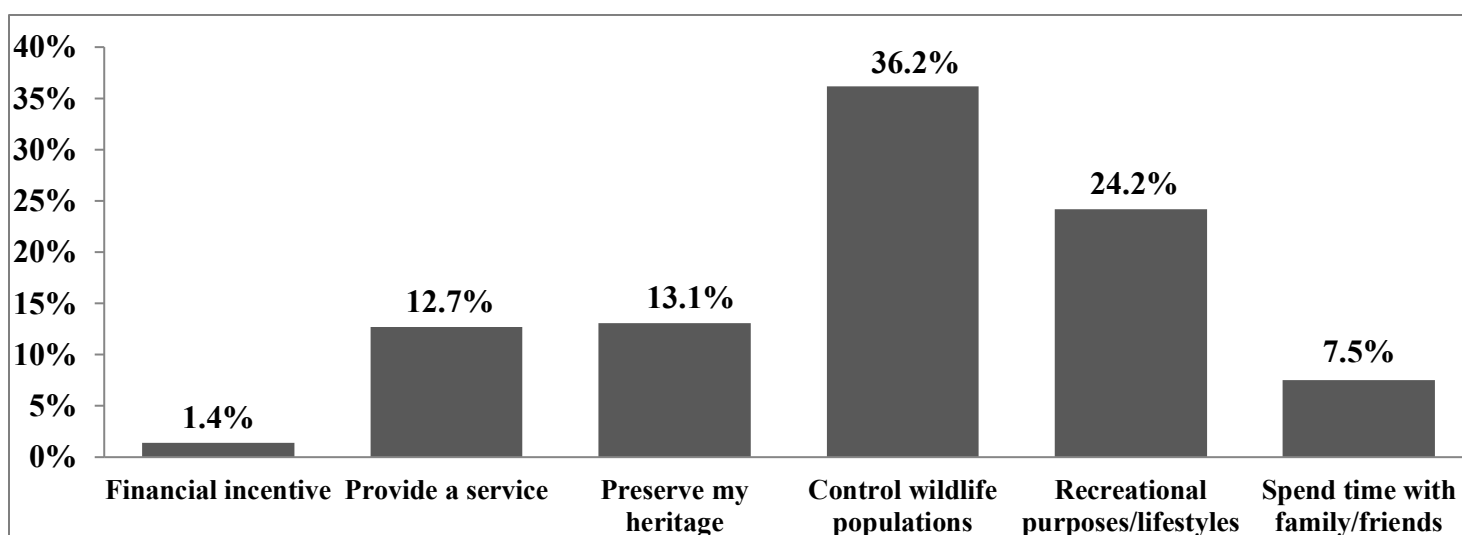


Figure 28. Respondents number one reason for trapping in Illinois ( $n = 442$ ).

### ***Bobcat permit process***

Those who set traps during the 2019-20 season were less likely to be satisfied with the current lottery system for bobcat permits, and almost two-thirds of active trappers were not satisfied with the process (Figure 29). Over one-third (34.9%) of active trappers applied for a bobcat permit and 18.9% of those who did not trap this year applied for a permit (Figure 30). Of those who did apply for a bobcat permit, 21.2% were successfully

drawn. When asked about support for changing the current bobcat permit system, 83.2% of trappers were supportive of change (Figure 31). Opinions were not statistically different among those who had received a permit and those who did not as well as those who had trapped in 2019-20 and those who did not. When asked if they would support prohibiting trappers from receiving a permit in two consecutive years trappers were less likely to favor prohibition (Figure 32). To address issues with the permit system trappers indicated their preferred solution was the issuance of more permits (38.0%), followed by ending the lottery and issuing a limit per hunter (15.8%), or making it like the otter/deer lotteries with 1 cat per hunter (10.5%) One in ten trappers (9.8%) accidentally caught a bobcat while trapping for a different species. A total of 106 bobcats were accidentally caught and 101 were released. When bobcats were incidentally caught the targeted species were most often coyote, red fox, and raccoon.

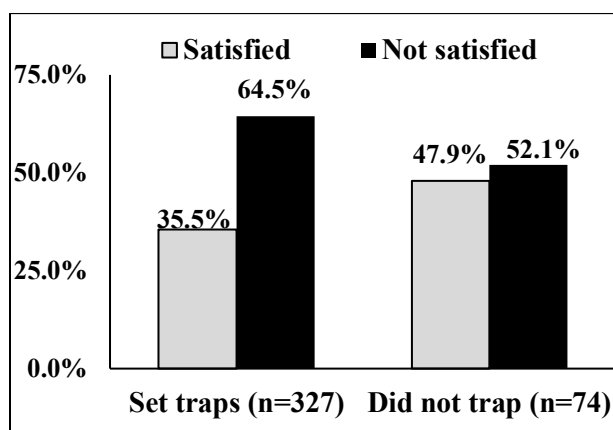


Figure 29. Percent of trappers satisfied with bobcat permit system.

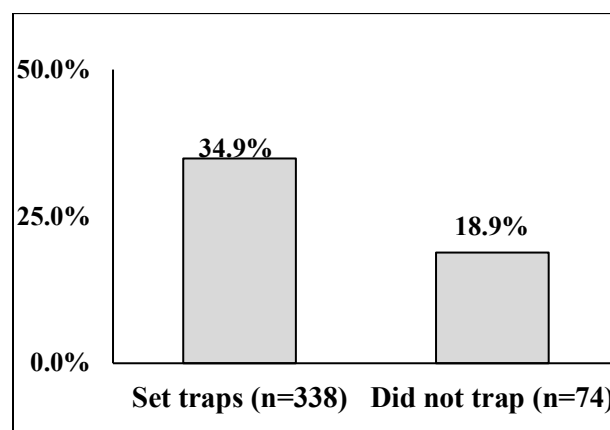


Figure 30. Percent of trappers who applied for a bobcat permit.

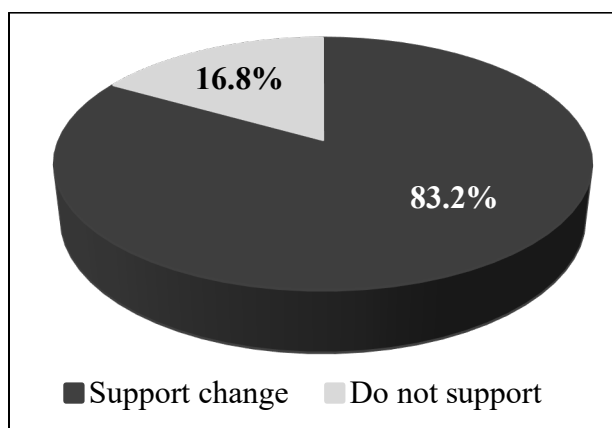


Figure 31. Percent of trappers who support changing the bobcat permit system ( $n = 386$ ).

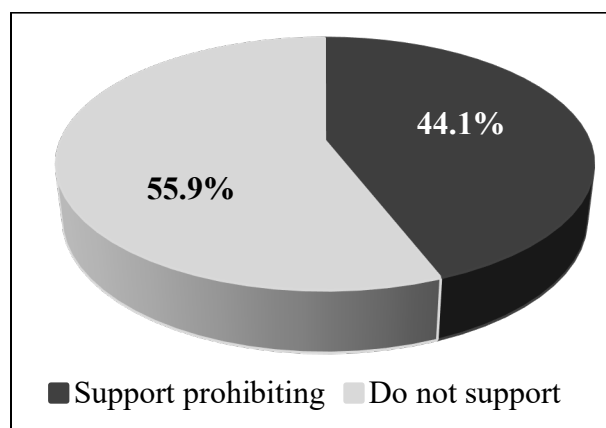


Figure 32. Percent of trappers\* who would support the prevention of receiving a bobcat permit two years in a row ( $n = 306$ ).

\*Among those who support changing the permit system

### *Trap use and opinions of snares*

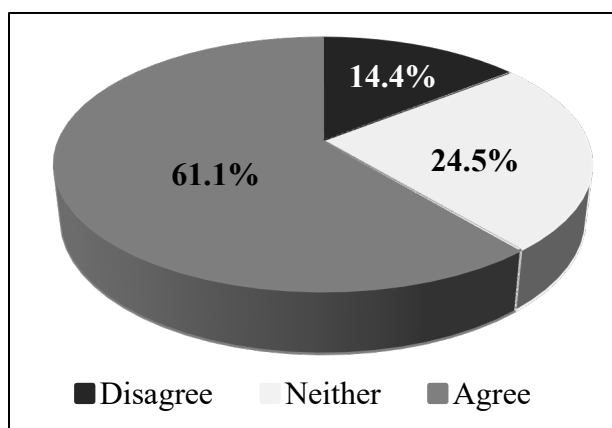


Figure 33. Percent of trappers who agree with allowing the use of cable restraints on private land ( $n = 432$ ).

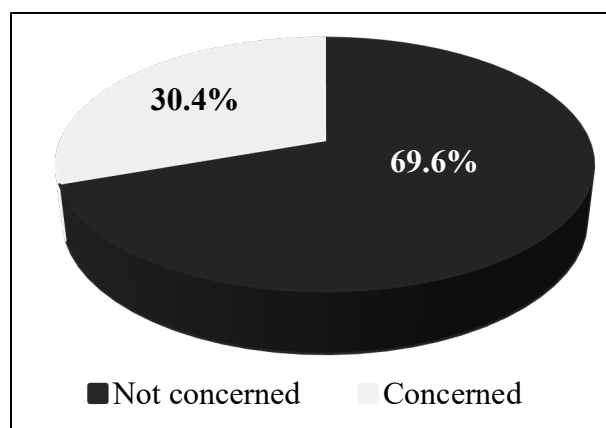


Figure 34. Percent of trappers who are concerned cable restraints pose a threat to non-target and domestic animals ( $n = 434$ ).

Two-thirds of trappers agree IDNR should allow the use of cable restraints on private lands (Figure 33). Most trappers were not concerned that the use of cable restraints would pose a threat to non-target and domestic animals (Figure 34). Among the 30.4% of trappers that were concerned, hunting dogs (75.8%) and pets (78.0%) were the animals hunters were most concerned about. Of those trappers who felt cable restraints could pose a threat 32.6% felt they would be a threat to deer and 1.5% wrote in that rabbit may be threatened. Most trappers were not concerned about hunter's disapproval of cable restraint use by trappers (Figure 35). Similarly, they were not concerned about public disapproval, but to a lesser degree as 58.5% (Figure 36). When asked about the

traps currently owned and used, 65.8% trappers identified steel leg hold traps as the type most commonly owned, 63.2% owned conibear, 33.5% owned cage style live traps, 19.3% owned dog proof, 13.5% owned snares, and 11.1% owned soft catch. During the 2019-20 trapping season conibear, steel jaw leg hold, and cage type live traps were used the most and sixty-three percent of those who owned soft catch used them (Table 35). Trappers were most likely to set 1-10 traps of any given type (Table 35).

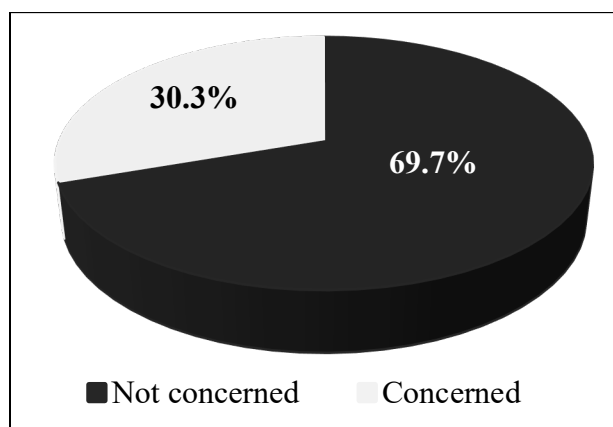


Figure 35. Percent of trappers who are concerned that hunters would disapprove of cable restraint use ( $n = 695$ ).

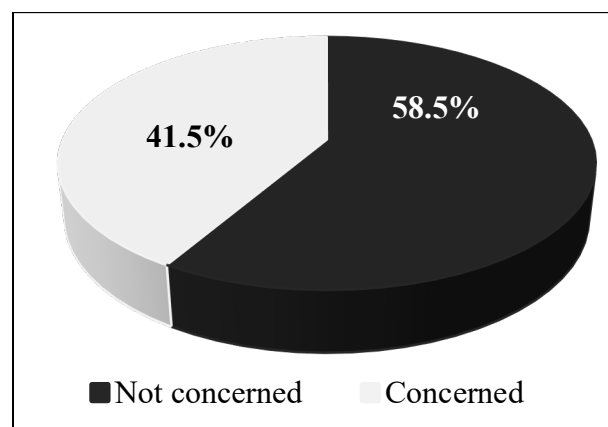


Figure 36. Percent of trappers who are concerned that non-hunting/non-trapping persons would disapprove of cable restraint ( $n = 695$ ).

### ***General Information***

During the 2019-20 season, Illinois trappers were predominantly male (Figure 37), averaged 52.6 years ( $\pm 15.2$   $n=745$ ) of age and had been trapping in Illinois for an average of 22.8 years ( $\pm 20.4$ ,  $n=745$ ). Eighty percent of trappers indicated that they had internet access in their homes ( $n=719$ ). Over forty percent (43.7%) of trappers began trapping when they were between 10 and 19 years old (Figure 38).



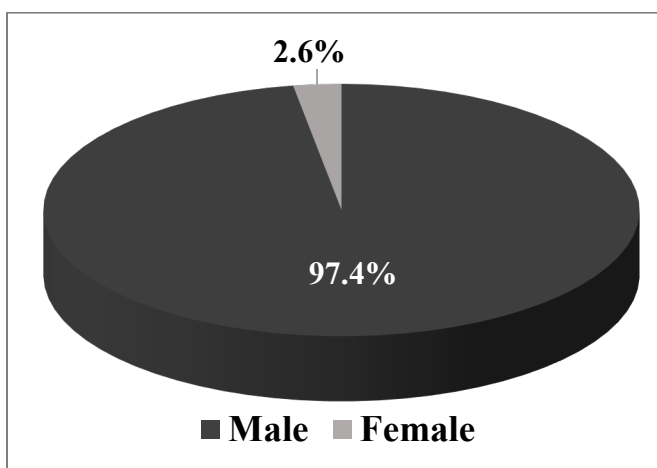


Figure 37. Gender of respondents ( $n = 733$ ).

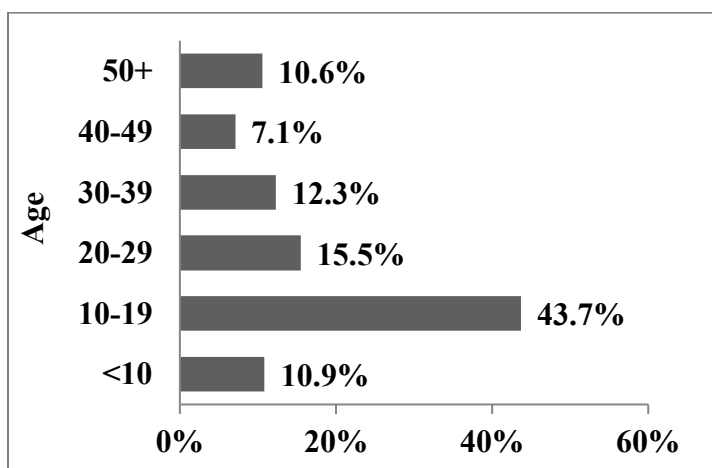


Figure 38. Age of trappers when they started trapping ( $n = 691$ ).

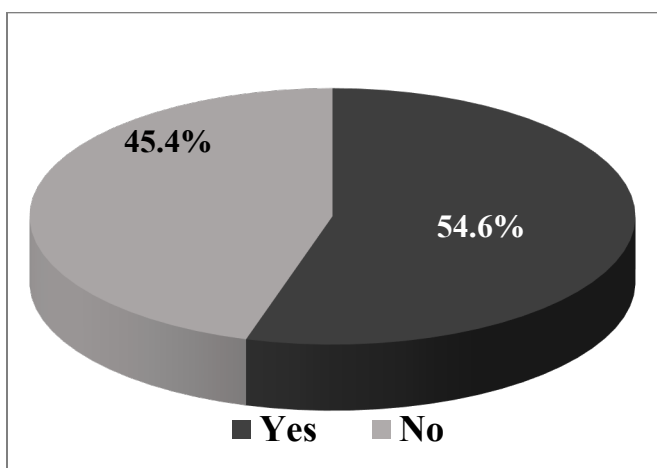


Figure 39. Percentage of respondents who have mentored a new trapper ( $n = 721$ ).

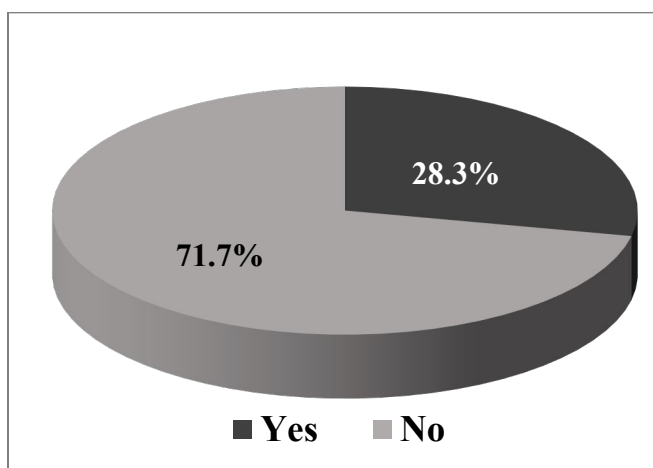


Figure 40. Percentage of respondents who know of someone who is interested in trapping ( $n = 718$ ).

Fifty-four percent of trappers (active and inactive) have ever mentored someone new to trapping (Figure 39). Over a quarter of trappers (active and inactive) know someone who does not currently trap but is interested in learning to do so (Figure 40). They knew of 337 people interested in learning to trap with an average age of  $21.1 (\pm 13.0, n=337)$ . Over twenty five percent (28.2%) were introduced to trapping by their father or mother, 26.3% indicated they were self-taught, followed by friends (23.1%) (Figure 41). Most frequent write-in answers were an extended family and trapper education course.

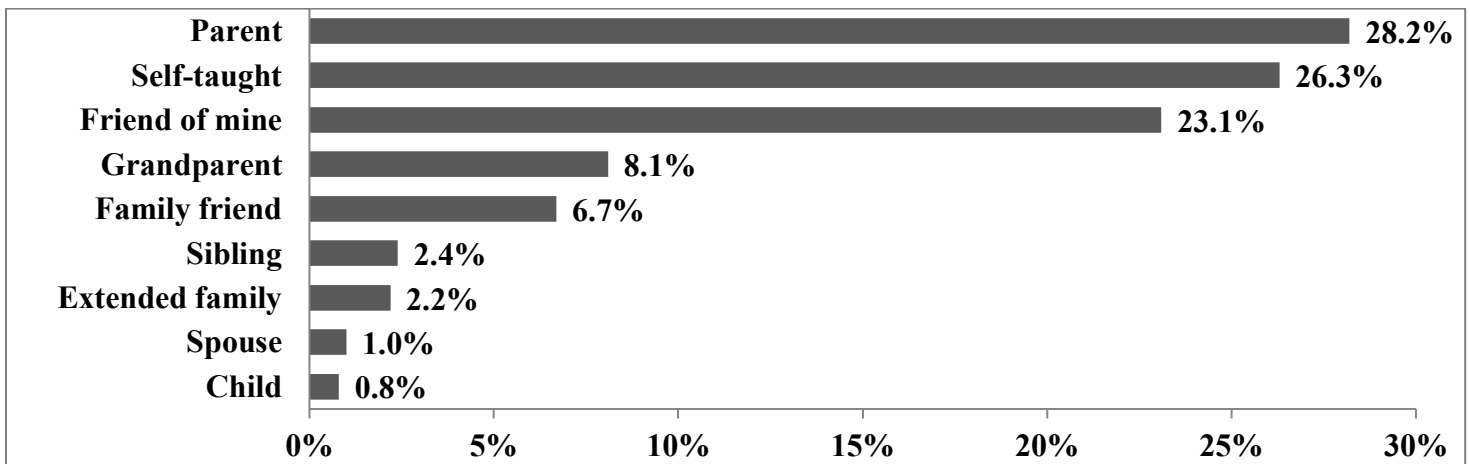


Figure 41. Respondents description of who introduced them to trapping ( $n = 719$ ). Percentages are greater than 100 because trappers could indicate multiple introducers to trapping.

Trappers set traps most often (94.7%) on private property (Figure 42). Private property not owned by the respondent (53.1%), their own private property (33.4%), and private property owned by the family (8.0%) were where trappers set traps most often. The counties which reported the greatest number of active trappers were Fulton, Ogle, Pike, and Whiteside (Table 35). The highest densities of trapper residences were in LaSalle, McLean, Cook, Effingham, Peoria, Randolph, and Stephenson counties (Table 36).

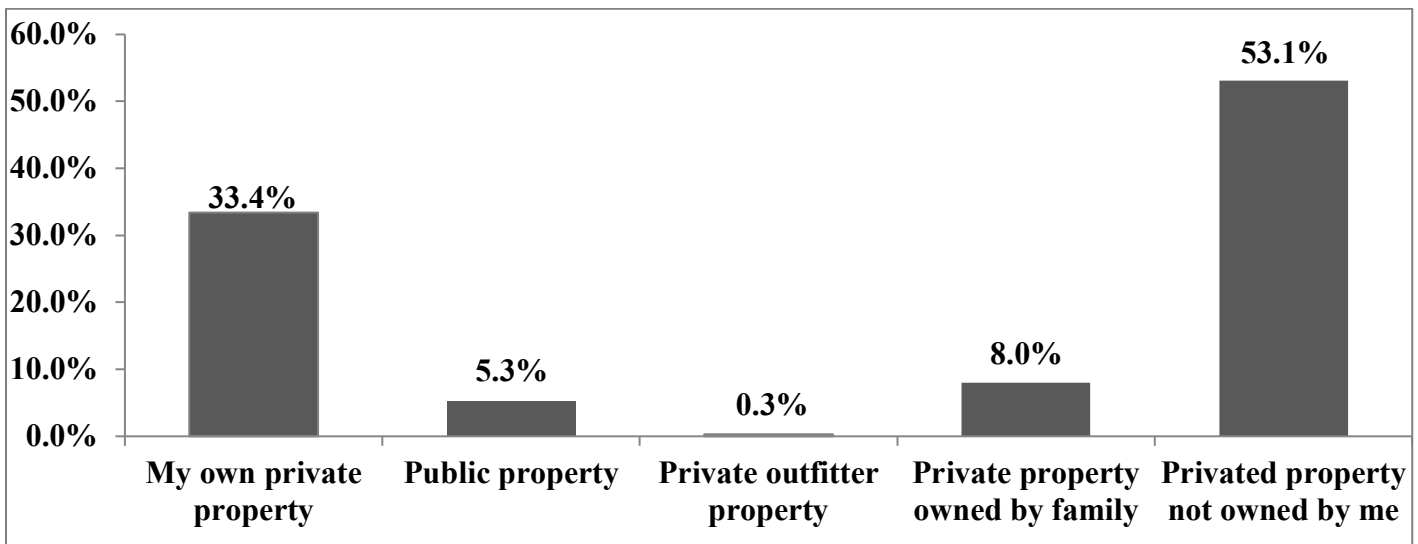


Figure 42. Description of type of land respondents set traps on most often in Illinois ( $n = 377$ ).

## REFERENCES

Anderson, W.L., and L.K. Campbell. 1992. Fur hunter/trapper survey, 1990-91. Illinois Department of Conservation, Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Projects W-99-R-3 and W-112-R-1, Study 1, Job 2, Job Completion Report, 71 pp.

Table 1. Participation and harvest by fur trappers in Illinois, 2019-20 season ( $n = 745$ ).

Species	Number of Reported Successful Trappers	% (Total Respondents)	Reported Harvest by Successful Trappers
Muskrat	138	18.5	1,792
Mink	57	7.7	122
Otter	65	8.7	270
Raccoon	298	40.0	7,554
Opossum	158	21.2	1,808
Red Fox	37	5.0	82
Gray Fox	1	0.1	4
Beaver	141	18.9	1,152
Striped Skunk	75	10.1	457
Weasel	0	0.0	-
Coyote	129	17.3	1,141
Badger	6	0.8	6
Bobcat	20	2.7	37

Table 2. Distribution of reported furbearer harvest among successful trappers in Illinois based on responses to the 2019-20 Illinois Trapper Survey.

Total Season Catch	Percentage of Trappers												
	Muskrat ( <i>n</i> = 138)	Mink ( <i>n</i> = 57)	Otter ( <i>n</i> = 65)	Raccoon ( <i>n</i> = 298)	Opossum ( <i>n</i> = 158)	Red Fox ( <i>n</i> = 37)	Gray Fox ( <i>n</i> = 1)	Beaver ( <i>n</i> = 141)	Striped Skunk ( <i>n</i> = 75)	Weasel ( <i>n</i> = 0)	Coyote ( <i>n</i> = 129)	Badger ( <i>n</i> = 6)	Bobcat ( <i>n</i> = 20)
1-5	47.1%	93.0%	95.4%	27.5%	52.5%	91.9%	100.0%	56.0%	78.7%	0.0%	55.0%	100.0%	100.0%
6-10	18.8%	5.3%	0.0%	17.4%	18.4%	8.1%	0.0%	19.9%	9.3%	0.0%	19.4%	0.0%	0.0%
11-15	9.4%	1.8%	0.0%	15.1%	12.0%	0.0%	0.0%	13.5%	4.0%	0.0%	10.9%	0.0%	0.0%
16-20	5.8%	0.0%	0.0%	8.7%	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%	5.0%	4.0%	0.0%	7.8%	0.0%	0.0%
21-25	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%	4.4%	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%	2.1%	1.3%	0.0%	3.1%	0.0%	0.0%
>25	15.9%	0.0%	4.6%	26.8%	7.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.5%	2.7%	0.0%	3.9%	0.0%	0.0%

Table 3. Summary of statewide data from post-season mail survey of resident trappers in Illinois, 2019-20 (*n* = 745), along with confidence intervals (95%) for estimated number of trappers, average season harvest, and total trapper harvest.

Species	Estimated Number of Trappers	Percent of Licensed Trappers	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Percent Sold	Estimated Total Sold
Muskrat	1,241 ± 191	18.5%	12.99 ± 2.86	16,111 ± 5,268	64.0%	10,303
Mink	512 ± 130	7.7%	2.14 ± 0.50	1,097 ± 466	64.8%	710
Otter	584 ± 139	8.7%	4.15 ± 2.02	2,427 ± 1,644	66.7%	1,618
Raccoon	2,679 ± 240	40.0%	25.35 ± 4.09	67,915 ± 14,660	60.0%	40,745
Opossum	1,421 ± 201	21.2%	11.44 ± 3.42	16,255 ± 6,652	7.9%	1,286
Red Fox	333 ± 107	5.0%	2.22 ± 0.58	737 ± 376	36.6%	270
Gray Fox	9 ± 18	0.1%	4.00 ± 0.00	36 ± 90	100.0%	36
Beaver	1,268 ± 192	18.9%	8.17 ± 2.16	10,357 ± 3,886	49.4%	5,116
Striped Skunk	674 ± 148	10.1%	6.09 ± 2.68	4,109 ± 2,520	5.3%	216
Weasel	0 ± 0	0.0%	0.00 ± 0	0 ± 0	-	-
Coyote	1,160 ± 186	17.3%	8.84 ± 2.87	10,258 ± 4,613	66.3%	6,797
Badger	54 ± 44	0.8%	1.00 ± 0.00	54 ± 55	16.7%	9
Bobcat	180 ± 79	2.7%	1.85 ± 0.56	333 ± 219	0.0%	-

Table 4. Summary of 2019 MUSKRAT trapper and harvest data in Wildlife Management Units in Illinois ( $n = 138$ ).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
Northwest Hills	171	13.8	1.8	18.8	3,210	34.1
Northeast Moraine	45	3.6	0.5	3.6	162	2.0
Mississippi Border-North	72	5.8	0.9	13.5	971	12.4
Mississippi Border-South	162	13.0	1.2	15.1	2,445	17.9
Western Prairie/Forest	99	8.0	0.7	16.5	1,636	11.3
Central Sand Prairie	63	5.1	1.5	16.6	1,043	25.1
Grand Prairie	378	30.4	0.7	9.8	3,713	7.1
Southern Plain	198	15.9	0.8	12.8	2,526	10.6
Wabash Border	27	2.2	0.4	7.0	189	2.8
Shawnee Hills	27	2.2	0.5	8.0	216	4.1
Unknown	-	0.0	--	--	-	--
<b>Statewide</b>	1,241	100.0	0.8	13.0	16,111	11.0

Table 5. Summary of 2019 MINK trapper and harvest data in Wildlife Management Units in Illinois ( $n = 57$ ).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
Northwest Hills	63	12.3	0.7	1.6	99	1.1
Northeast Moraine	27	5.3	0.3	2.0	54	0.7
Mississippi Border-North	36	7.0	0.5	3.3	117	1.5
Mississippi Border-South	54	10.5	0.4	2.7	144	1.1
Western Prairie/Forest	36	7.0	0.2	1.5	54	0.4
Central Sand Prairie	45	8.8	1.1	1.4	63	1.5
Grand Prairie	171	33.3	0.3	1.7	297	0.6
Southern Plain	63	12.3	0.3	3.9	243	1.0
Wabash Border	9	1.8	0.1	2.0	18	0.3
Shawnee Hills	9	1.8	0.2	1.0	9	0.2
Unknown	-	0.0	--	--	-	--
<b>Statewide</b>	512	100.0	0.4	2.1	1,097	0.8

Table 6. Summary of 2019 OTTER trapper and harvest data in Wildlife Management Units in Illinois ( $n = 65$ ).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
Northwest Hills	63	2.3	0.7	6.3	396	4.2
Northeast Moraine	9	0.3	0.1	1.0	9	0.1
Mississippi Border-North	54	2.0	0.7	2.7	144	1.8
Mississippi Border-South	90	3.4	0.7	2.4	216	1.6
Western Prairie/Forest	45	1.7	0.3	9.0	405	2.8
Central Sand Prairie	27	1.0	0.7	3.7	99	2.4
Grand Prairie	117	4.4	0.2	2.2	252	0.5
Southern Plain	135	5.0	0.6	2.5	342	1.4
Wabash Border	9	0.3	0.1	1.0	9	0.1
Shawnee Hills	36	1.3	0.7	15.5	557	10.7
Unknown	-	0.0	--	--	-	--
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>2,427</b>	<b>1.7</b>

Table 7. Summary of 2019 RACCOON trapper and harvest data in Wildlife Management Units in Illinois ( $n = 298$ ).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
Northwest Hills	360	13.4	3.8	42.3	15,194	161.7
Northeast Moraine	45	1.7	0.5	5.6	252	3.0
Mississippi Border-North	162	6.0	2.1	32.9	5,322	67.8
Mississippi Border-South	378	14.1	2.8	20.4	7,696	56.3
Western Prairie/Forest	360	13.4	2.5	22.9	8,217	57.0
Central Sand Prairie	99	3.7	2.4	37.9	3,749	90.4
Grand Prairie	647	24.2	1.2	20.0	12,937	24.6
Southern Plain	423	15.8	1.8	21.8	9,206	38.8
Wabash Border	90	3.4	1.3	31.4	2,823	41.9
Shawnee Hills	108	4.0	2.1	22.4	2,418	46.4
Unknown	9	0.3	--	11.0	99	--
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>2,679</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>67,915</b>	<b>46.5</b>

Table 8. Summary of 2019 OPOSSUM trapper and harvest data in Wildlife Management Units in Illinois ( $n = 158$ ).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
Northwest Hills	180	12.7	1.9	15.9	2,850	30.3
Northeast Moraine	36	2.5	0.4	5.0	180	2.2
Mississippi Border-North	117	8.3	1.5	28.3	3,308	42.2
Mississippi Border-South	234	16.6	1.7	8.0	1,870	13.7
Western Prairie/Forest	144	10.2	1.0	5.4	782	5.4
Central Sand Prairie	63	4.5	1.5	32.9	2,068	49.9
Grand Prairie	324	22.9	0.6	6.7	2,167	4.1
Southern Plain	216	15.3	0.9	9.8	2,122	8.9
Wabash Border	36	2.5	0.5	8.8	315	4.7
Shawnee Hills	63	4.5	1.2	8.7	548	10.5
Unknown	9	0.6	--	5.0	45	--
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>1,412</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>16,255</b>	<b>11.1</b>

Table 9. Summary of 2019 RED FOX trapper and harvest data in Wildlife Management Units in Illinois ( $n = 37$ ).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
Northwest Hills	18	5.4	0.2	1.0	18	0.2
Northeast Moraine	9	2.7	0.1	2.0	18	0.2
Mississippi Border-North	18	5.4	0.2	1.5	27	0.3
Mississippi Border-South	63	18.9	0.5	1.6	99	0.7
Western Prairie/Forest	27	8.1	0.2	1.3	36	0.2
Central Sand Prairie	9	2.7	0.2	8.0	72	1.7
Grand Prairie	99	29.7	0.2	2.5	252	0.5
Southern Plain	72	21.6	0.3	2.5	180	0.8
Wabash Border	9	2.7	0.1	3.0	27	0.4
Shawnee Hills	9	2.7	0.2	1.0	9	0.2
Unknown	-	0.0	--	--	-	--
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>737</b>	<b>0.5</b>



Table 10. Summary of 2019 GRAY FOX trapper and harvest data in Wildlife Management Units in Illinois ( $n = 1$ ).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
Northwest Hills	-	--	--	--	-	--
Northeast Moraine	-	--	--	--	-	--
Mississippi Border-North	-	--	--	--	-	--
Mississippi Border-South	9	100.0	0.1	4.0	36	0.3
Western Prairie/Forest	-	--	--	--	-	--
Central Sand Prairie	-	--	--	--	-	--
Grand Prairie	-	--	--	--	-	--
Southern Plain	-	--	--	--	-	--
Wabash Border	-	--	--	--	-	--
Shawnee Hills	-	--	--	--	-	--
Unknown	-	0.0	--	--	-	--
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Table 11. Summary of 2019 BEAVER trapper and harvest data in Wildlife Management Units in Illinois ( $n = 141$ ).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
Northwest Hills	135	10.6	1.4	7.1	953	10.1
Northeast Moraine	45	3.5	0.5	6.0	270	3.3
Mississippi Border-North	72	5.7	0.9	4.5	324	4.1
Mississippi Border-South	144	11.3	1.1	8.1	1,169	8.5
Western Prairie/Forest	108	8.5	0.7	8.5	917	6.4
Central Sand Prairie	45	3.5	1.1	37.0	1,663	40.1
Grand Prairie	432	34.0	0.8	7.2	3,102	5.9
Southern Plain	171	13.5	0.7	5.5	944	4.0
Wabash Border	36	2.8	0.5	5.5	198	2.9
Shawnee Hills	81	6.4	1.6	10.1	818	15.7
Unknown	-	0.0	--	--	-	--
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>1,268</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>10,357</b>	<b>7.1</b>

Table 12. Summary of 2019 STRIPED SKUNK trapper and harvest data in Wildlife Management Units in Illinois ( $n = 75$ ).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
Northwest Hills	81	12.0	0.9	6.4	521	5.5
Northeast Moraine	36	5.3	0.4	7.3	261	3.2
Mississippi Border-North	36	5.3	0.5	5.5	198	2.5
Mississippi Border-South	63	9.3	0.5	2.4	153	1.1
Western Prairie/Forest	72	10.7	0.5	2.8	198	1.4
Central Sand Prairie	54	8.0	1.3	18.3	989	23.8
Grand Prairie	162	24.0	0.3	6.2	998	1.9
Southern Plain	117	17.3	0.5	3.9	459	1.9
Wabash Border	18	2.7	0.3	12.0	216	3.2
Shawnee Hills	36	5.3	0.7	3.3	117	2.2
Unknown	-	0.0	--	--	-	--
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>4,109</b>	<b>2.8</b>

Table 13. Summary of 2019 WEASEL trapper and harvest data in Wildlife Management Units in Illinois ( $n = 0$ ).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
Northwest Hills	-	--	--	--	-	--
Northeast Moraine	-	--	--	--	-	--
Mississippi Border-North	-	--	--	--	-	--
Mississippi Border-South	-	--	--	--	-	--
Western Prairie/Forest	-	--	--	--	-	--
Central Sand Prairie	-	--	--	--	-	--
Grand Prairie	-	--	--	--	-	--
Southern Plain	-	--	--	--	-	--
Wabash Border	-	--	--	--	-	--
Shawnee Hills	-	--	--	--	-	--
Unknown	-	--	--	--	-	--
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>--</b>

Table 14. Summary of 2019 COYOTE trapper and harvest data in Wildlife Management Units in Illinois ( $n = 129$ ).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
Northwest Hills	126	10.9	1.3	6.9	872	9.3
Northeast Moraine	18	1.6	0.2	5.5	99	1.2
Mississippi Border-North	72	6.2	0.9	7.9	566	7.2
Mississippi Border-South	153	13.2	1.1	5.7	872	6.4
Western Prairie/Forest	90	7.8	0.6	6.6	593	4.1
Central Sand Prairie	36	3.1	0.9	5.5	198	4.8
Grand Prairie	414	35.7	0.8	12.8	5,304	10.1
Southern Plain	162	14.0	0.7	6.7	1,088	4.6
Wabash Border	36	3.1	0.5	3.5	126	1.9
Shawnee Hills	54	4.7	1.0	10.0	539	10.3
Unknown	-	0.0	--	--	-	--
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>1,160</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>10,258</b>	<b>7.0</b>

Table 15. Summary of 2019 BADGER trapper and harvest data in Wildlife Management Units in Illinois ( $n = 6$ ).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
Northwest Hills	-	--	--	--	-	--
Northeast Moraine	-	--	--	--	-	--
Mississippi Border-North	9	16.7	0.1	1.0	9	0.1
Mississippi Border-South	9	16.7	0.1	1.0	9	0.1
Western Prairie/Forest	-	--	--	--	-	--
Central Sand Prairie	18	33.3	0.4	1.0	18	0.4
Grand Prairie	18	33.3	0.0	1.0	18	0.0
Southern Plain	-	--	--	--	-	--
Wabash Border	-	--	--	--	-	--
Shawnee Hills	-	--	--	--	-	--
Unknown	-	0.0	--	--	-	--
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Table 16. Summary of 2019 BOBCAT trapper and harvest data in Wildlife Management Units in Illinois ( $n = 20$ ).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
Northwest Hills	18	33.3	0.2	1.0	18	0.2
Northeast Moraine	-	--	--	--	-	--
Mississippi Border-North	18	33.3	0.2	2.0	36	0.5
Mississippi Border-South	27	50.0	0.2	2.3	63	0.5
Western Prairie/Forest	-	--	--	--	-	--
Central Sand Prairie	9	16.7	0.2	1.0	9	0.2
Grand Prairie	45	83.3	0.1	1.6	72	0.1
Southern Plain	45	83.3	0.2	2.0	90	0.4
Wabash Border	18	33.3	0.3	2.5	45	0.7
Shawnee Hills	-	--	--	--	-	--
Unknown	-	0.0	--	--	-	--
<b>Statewide</b>	180	333.3	0.1	1.9	333	0.2

Table 17. Summary of 2019 MUSKRAT trapper and harvest data in Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois ( $n = 138$ ).

Trapping Zone	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Harvest	% of Harvest	Estimated Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
North	746	60.1	0.9	13.4	9,980	61.9	12.2
South	494	39.9	0.8	12.4	6,132	38.1	9.5
<b>Statewide</b>	1,241	100.0	0.8	13.0	16,111	100.0	11.0

Table 18. Summary of 2019 MINK trapper and harvest data by Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois ( $n = 57$ ).

Trapping Zone	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Harvest	% of Harvest	Estimated Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
North	333	64.9	0.4	1.9	620	56.6	0.8
South	180	35.1	0.3	2.7	477	43.4	0.7
<b>Statewide</b>	512	100.0	0.4	2.1	1,097	100.0	0.8

Table 19. Summary of 2019 OTTER trapper and harvest data by Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois ( $n = 65$ ).

Trapping Zone	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Harvest	% of Harvest	Estimated Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
North	279	10.4	0.3	4.4	1,232	1.8	1.5
South	306	11.4	0.5	3.9	1,196	1.8	1.9
<b>Statewide</b>	584	21.9	0.4	4.2	2,427	3.6	1.7

Table 20. Summary of 2019 RACCOON trapper and harvest data by Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois ( $n = 298$ ).

Trapping Zone	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Harvest	% of Harvest	Estimated Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
North	1,456	54.5	1.8	29.4	42,840	63.2	52.3
South	1,214	45.5	1.9	20.6	24,976	36.8	38.9
<b>Statewide</b>	2,670	100.0	1.8	25.4	67,816	100.0	46.4

Table 21. Summary of 2019 OPOSSUM trapper and harvest data by Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois ( $n = 158$ ).

Trapping Zone	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Harvest	% of Harvest	Estimated Harvest/100km <sup>2</sup>
North	764	54.1	0.9	13.5	10,339	63.8	12.6
South	647	45.9	1.0	9.1	5,871	36.2	9.1
<b>Statewide</b>	1,412	100.0	1.0	11.5	16,210	100.0	11.1

Table 22. Summary of 2019 RED FOX trapper and harvest data by Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois ( $n = 37$ ).

Trapping Zone	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/ 100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Harvest	% of Harvest	Estimated Harvest/ 100km <sup>2</sup>
North	153	45.9	0.2	2.5	378	51.2	0.5
South	180	54.1	0.3	2.0	360	48.8	0.6
<b>Statewide</b>	333	100.0	0.2	2.2	737	100.0	0.5

Table 23. Summary of 2019 GRAY FOX trapper and harvest data by Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois ( $n = 1$ ).

Trapping Zone	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/ 100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Harvest	% of Harvest	Estimated Harvest/ 100km <sup>2</sup>
North	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
South	9	100.0	0.0	4.0	36	100.0	0.1
<b>Statewide</b>	9	100.0	0.0	4.0	36	100.0	0.0

Table 24. Summary of 2019 BEAVER trapper and harvest data by Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois ( $n = 141$ ).

Trapping Zone	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/ 100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Harvest	% of Harvest	Estimated Harvest/ 100km <sup>2</sup>
North	728	57.4	0.9	9.3	6,788	65.5	8.3
South	539	42.6	0.8	6.6	3,569	34.5	5.6
<b>Statewide</b>	1,268	100.0	0.9	8.2	10,357	100.0	7.1

Table 25. Summary of 2019 STRIPED SKUNK trapper and harvest data by Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois ( $n = 75$ ).

Trapping Zone	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/ 100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Harvest	% of Harvest	Estimated Harvest/ 100km <sup>2</sup>
North	405	60.0	0.5	7.7	3,111	75.7	3.8
South	270	40.0	0.4	3.7	998	24.3	1.6
<b>Statewide</b>	674	100.0	0.5	6.1	4,109	100.0	2.8

Table 26. Summary of 2019 WEASEL trapper and harvest data by Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois ( $n = 0$ ).

Trapping Zone	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/ 100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Harvest	% of Harvest	Estimated Harvest/ 100km <sup>2</sup>
North	-	--	--	--	-	--	--
South	-	--	--	--	-	--	--
<b>Statewide</b>	-	--	--	--	-	--	--

Table 27. Summary of 2019 COYOTE trapper and harvest data by Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois ( $n = 129$ ).

Trapping Zone	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/ 100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Harvest	% of Harvest	Estimated Harvest/ 100km <sup>2</sup>
North	656	56.6	0.8	9.9	6,482	63.2	7.9
South	503	43.4	0.8	7.5	3,776	36.8	5.9
<b>Statewide</b>	1160	100.0	0.8	8.8	10,258	100.0	7.0

Table 28. Summary of 2019 BADGER trapper and harvest data by Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois ( $n = 6$ ).

Trapping Zone	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/ 100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Harvest	% of Harvest	Estimated Harvest/ 100km <sup>2</sup>
North	36	66.7	0.0	1.0	36	66.7	0.0
South	18	33.3	0.0	1.0	18	33.3	0.0
<b>Statewide</b>	54	100.0	0.0	1.0	54	100.0	0.0

Table 29. Summary of 2019 BOBCAT trapper and harvest data by Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois ( $n = 20$ ).

Trapping Zone	Estimated Trappers	%	Estimated Trappers/ 100km <sup>2</sup>	Average Season Catch	Estimated Harvest	% of Harvest	Estimated Harvest/ 100km <sup>2</sup>
North	72	40.0	0.1	1.3	90	27.0	0.1
South	108	60.0	0.2	2.3	243	73.0	0.4
<b>Statewide</b>	180	100.0	0.1	1.9	333	100.0	0.2



Table 30. The number of pelts sold by successful trappers (i.e., caught  $\geq 1$  animal) for 13 species of furbearers in Illinois, 2019-20 season ( $n = 745$ ).

Species	Number of Pelts Sold	Pelts Sold in Illinois		Pelts Sold Outside Illinois	
		Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Muskrat	10,303	7,714	74.9	2,589	25.1
Mink	710	503	70.9	207	29.1
Otter	1,618	1,331	82.2	288	17.8
Raccoon	40,745	29,004	71.2	11,742	28.8
Opossum	1,286	1,169	90.9	117	9.1
Red Fox	270	153	56.7	117	43.3
Gray Fox	36	36	100.0	-	0.0
Beaver	5,116	3,803	74.3	1,313	25.7
Striped Skunk	216	126	58.3	90	41.7
Weasel	-	-	-	-	-
Coyote	6,797	5,439	80.0	1,358	20.0
Badger	9	0	0.0	9	100.0
Bobcat	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>67,106</b>	<b>49,278</b>	<b>73.4</b>	<b>17,828</b>	<b>26.6</b>

Table 31. Estimated statewide harvest by resident Illinois trappers, 2007-2019.

Season	Muskrat	Mink	Otter	Raccoon	Opossum	Red Fox	Gray Fox	Beaver	Striped Skunk	Weasel	Coyote	Badger	Bobcat	All Species
2007	35,461	3,563	-	88,784	27,011	1,316	191	9,394	6,558	53	9,216	84		181,631
2008	32,480	2,764	-	77,310	22,839	783	86	9,997	4,745	22	4,405	65		155,496
2009	31,942	1,792	-	52,431	14,203	1,001	71	7,697	3,784	29	4,585	62		117,597
2010	63,257	4,574	-	88,233	20,213	848	39	11,238	3,981	33	6,193	44		198,653
2011	37,068	3,828	-	149,449	27,983	1,294	135	13,397	6,214	55	6,766	98		246,286
2012	33,906	2,678	-	104,947	23,264	1,412	69	12,898	5,140	26	10,874	146		195,360
2013	32,467	3,005	-	151,367	34,208	1,624	85	9,874	5,022	53	13,314	159		251,178
2014	33,860	2,895	-	101,035	17,152	1,739	89	7,249	4,621	76	11,096	165		179,978
2015	32,038	1,641	1,198	55,390	12,829	932	0	10,514	3,123	35	7,488	124		125,314
2016	24,217	1,982	1,388	57,324	14,695	948	20	10,050	2,349	47	12,532	53		125,605
2017	18,795	1,969	1,627	64,025	16,753	862	16	11,179	2,539	41	16,525	81	146	134,560
2018	16,079	1,502	1,493	63,179	17,815	894	35	10,358	4,141	96	11,781	156	460	127,990
2019	16,111	1,097	2,427	67,915	16,255	737	36	10,357	4,109	0	10,258	54	333	129,689

Table 32. Summary of fur hunting activities reported by trappers<sup>a</sup> in Illinois, 2019-20.

Species	Number of Trappers Hunting	Reported Furbearers Harvested by Hunting	Average Reported Harvest Per Hunter	% of Trappers Hunting Each Species	Estimated Total Harvest By Hunting
Raccoon	54	819	15.2	7.2%	7,363
Opossum	13	84	6.5	1.7%	755
Red Fox	1	1	1.0	0.1%	9
Gray Fox	0	0	0	0	0
Striped Skunk	3	17	5.7	0.4%	153
Coyote	71	409	5.8	9.5%	3,677
All species	109 <sup>b c</sup>	1,330	12.2	14.6%	11,958

<sup>a</sup> Active and inactive trappers.<sup>b</sup> Successful and unsuccessful hunters.<sup>c</sup> Total for hunters of all species may be less than the sum of values because some trappers hunted >1 species.

Table 33. Number of trappers who saw badgers or signs of badgers by the county in Illinois.

County	Saw Badger <i>n</i>	Saw Signs <i>n</i>	County	Saw Badger <i>n</i>	Saw Signs <i>n</i>	County	Saw Badger <i>n</i>	Saw Signs <i>n</i>
Adams	1	2	Hardin	0	0	Morgan	1	1
Alexander	0	0	Henderson	1	2	Moultrie	0	0
Bond	0	0	Henry	2	3	Ogle	2	3
Boone	1	3	Iroquois	1	2	Peoria	2	3
Brown	0	0	Jackson	0	1	Perry	0	0
Bureau	2	3	Jasper	0	0	Piatt	0	0
Calhoun	0	0	Jefferson	0	0	Pike	3	3
Carroll	2	3	Jersey	0	1	Pope	0	0
Cass	0	2	Jo Daviess	1	3	Pulaski	0	0
Champaign	1	1	Johnson	0	0	Putnam	1	2
Christian	1	3	Kane	1	2	Randolph	1	1
Clark	0	0	Kankakee	0	1	Richland	0	1
Clay	0	0	Kendall	1	1	Rock Island	2	4
Clinton	0	0	Knox	2	4	St. Clair	0	0
Coles	0	1	Lake	0	0	Saline	0	0
Cook	0	0	LaSalle	2	3	Sangamon	2	2
Crawford	0	0	Lawrence	0	0	Schuyler	0	0
Cumberland	0	0	Lee	1	1	Scott	0	0
DeKalb	2	4	Livingston	1	1	Shelby	0	0
DeWitt	0	0	Logan	8	8	Stark	1	1
Douglas	0	0	McDonough	1	1	Stephenson	2	5
DuPage	0	0	McHenry	0	2	Tazewell	1	1
Edgar	1	1	McLean	3	7	Union	0	0
Edwards	0	0	Macon	1	0	Vermilion	1	1
Effingham	0	0	Macoupin	0	0	Wabash	0	0
Fayette	1	0	Madison	0	0	Warren	1	1
Ford	1	3	Marion	0	0	Washington	2	2
Franklin	0	0	Marshall	1	3	Wayne	2	1
Fulton	1	1	Mason	4	6	White	0	0
Gallatin	0	0	Massac	0	0	Whiteside	4	7
Greene	1	2	Menard	1	2	Will	1	1
Grundy	1	2	Mercer	2	4	Williamson	0	0
Hamilton	0	0	Monroe	1	1	Winnebago	1	4
Hancock	0	3	Montgomery	1	1	Woodford	1	1

Table 34. Importance of reasons for trapping.

	Those who trapped in 2019-20						Those who did not trap in 2019-20					
	Not Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important	$\bar{x}$	Not Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important	$\bar{x}$
Trapping is a central part of my life	13.0%	16.3%	30.1%	22.0%	18.7%	3.2(1.3)	24.1%	26.8%	30.1%	12.3%	6.6%	2.5(1.2)
To learn about wildlife	9.6%	6.0%	29.8%	33.3%	21.3%	3.5(1.2)	12.4%	10.9%	30.0%	30.6%	16.1%	3.3(1.2)
To control predator populations	3.8%	6.0%	11.8%	25.3%	53.0%	4.2(1.1)	7.3%	4.8%	14.8%	29.3%	43.8%	4.0(1.2)
Trapping gives me an opportunity to be my own boss	40.3%	15.6%	18.4%	12.1%	13.7%	2.4(1.5)	47.1%	12.7%	18.1%	13.0%	9.1%	2.2(1.4)
Trapping is a fun activity	4.3%	5.1%	14.1%	31.2%	45.3%	4.1(1.1)	8.7%	4.5%	24.3%	30.3%	32.1%	3.7(1.2)
To share my experience with friends	14.9%	9.5%	22.8%	27.6%	25.2%	3.4(1.4)	22.5%	10.0%	26.1%	24.6%	16.7%	3.0(1.4)
To feel close to nature and the land	5.4%	3.3%	17.1%	29.5%	44.7%	4.0(1.1)	9.6%	3.9%	20.8%	29.8%	35.8%	3.8(1.2)
To control disease in wildlife populations	6.5%	8.9%	20.8%	23.0%	40.8%	3.8(1.2)	8.7%	10.5%	20.5%	24.4%	35.8%	3.7(1.3)
To remain part of the heritage of trapping	6.7%	5.9%	19.1%	27.2%	41.0%	3.9(1.2)	10.5%	10.2%	22.3%	25.3%	31.6%	3.6(1.3)
To share my skills and knowledge with others	8.6%	8.6%	23.0%	29.2%	30.5%	3.6(1.2)	17.5%	13.6%	28.9%	21.4%	18.7%	3.1(1.3)
For the independence	20.9%	8.7%	25.5%	22.5%	22.5%	3.2(1.4)	25.3%	10.5%	27.7%	18.4%	18.1%	2.9(1.4)
To share my experience with family	10.5%	7.3%	18.9%	26.7%	36.7%	3.7(1.3)	19.9%	7.6%	26.0%	23.6%	23.0%	3.2(1.4)
To observe wildlife	5.1%	3.8%	18.6%	31.8%	40.7%	4.0(1.1)	8.2%	5.1%	23.3%	32.3%	31.1%	3.7(1.2)
To maintain a rural American tradition	7.8%	5.4%	16.2%	27.2%	43.4%	3.9(1.2)	9.8%	6.8%	23.8%	28.0%	31.5%	3.6(1.3)
For the challenge	5.7%	4.6%	11.4%	30.1%	48.2%	4.1(1.1)	9.9%	4.8%	18.6%	32.1%	34.5%	3.8(1.3)
To remove nuisance animals	3.5%	3.2%	12.4%	24.8%	56.1%	4.3(1.0)	5.4%	5.4%	15.3%	26.6%	47.3%	4.1(1.2)
To provide a service to landowners	9.2%	3.8%	17.8%	27.6%	41.6%	3.9(1.3)	16.2%	8.1%	20.1%	27.3%	28.2%	3.4(1.4)
Trapping is my favorite activity	12.5%	13.6%	34.8%	18.5%	20.7%	3.2(1.3)	23.6%	22.7%	32.4%	11.2%	10.0%	2.6(1.2)
For the extra income it provides	52.4%	19.6%	15.2%	5.7%	7.1%	2.0(1.2)	56.3%	20.5%	14.8%	3.0%	5.4%	1.8(1.1)
To maintain a family tradition	22.7%	11.2%	23.5%	19.1%	23.5%	3.1(1.5)	27.9%	13.6%	25.8%	16.1%	16.7%	2.8(1.4)
To interact with others	30.4%	14.8%	27.1%	15.6%	12.1%	2.6(1.4)	34.1%	19.0%	26.3%	11.8%	8.8%	2.4(1.3)
To be self-reliant	25.1%	13.1%	23.2%	19.9%	18.6%	2.9(1.4)	31.6%	11.4%	26.2%	15.1%	15.7%	2.7(1.4)

Table 35. Types of traps owned and used by active Illinois trappers.

# of traps	Conibear traps (n = 257)		Steel jaw leg hold traps (n = 268)		Soft catch/padded leg (n = 42)		Cage type live traps (n = 149)		Snares (n = 56)		Other (n = 88)	
	Owned	Set	Owned	Set	Owned	Set	Owned	Set	Owned	Set	Owned	Set
0	-	14.2%	-	41.8%	-	36.6%	-	36.2%	-	60.8%	-	80.2%
1-10	14.2%	58.3%	41.8%	32.8%	36.6%	51.2%	36.2%	59.8%	60.8%	37.3%	80.2%	10.3%
11-20	58.3%	17.4%	32.8%	15.3%	51.2%	9.8%	59.8%	2.4%	37.3%	2.0%	10.3%	4.5%
21-30	17.4%	6.5%	15.3%	6.1%	9.8%	0.0%	2.4%	0.8%	2.0%	0.0%	4.5%	2.6%
31-40	6.5%	2.4%	6.1%	1.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.6%	1.1%
41-50	2.4%	0.0%	1.6%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	0.5%
51-100	0.0%	0.4%	0.8%	1.3%	0.0%	2.4%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.8%
>100	0.4%	0.8%	1.3%	0.3%	2.4%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%

Table 36. Distribution of active trappers by county trapped most in Illinois based on responses to the 2019-20 Illinois Trapper Survey ( $n = 377$ ).

County	<i>n</i>	County	<i>n</i>	County	<i>n</i>
Adams	4	Hardin	2	Morgan	4
Alexander	-	Henderson	1	Moultrie	1
Bond	2	Henry	7	Ogle	10
Boone	-	Iroquois	3	Peoria	6
Brown	5	Jackson	5	Perry	-
Bureau	8	Jasper	1	Piatt	1
Calhoun	4	Jefferson	5	Pike	10
Carroll	3	Jersey	3	Pope	2
Cass	2	Jo Daviess	9	Pulaski	2
Champaign	2	Johnson	2	Putnam	-
Christian	4	Kane	3	Randolph	8
Clark	2	Kankakee	2	Richland	4
Clay	1	Kendall	1	Rock Island	3
Clinton	4	Knox	7	St. Clair	5
Coles	3	Lake	5	Saline	1
Cook	3	LaSalle	7	Sangamon	5
Crawford	2	Lawrence	2	Schuyler	1
Cumberland	4	Lee	1	Scott	-
De Kalb	4	Livingston	8	Shelby	2
DeWitt	2	Logan	4	Stark	-
Douglas	2	McDonough	2	Stephenson	9
Du Page	2	McHenry	1	Tazewell	6
Edgar	2	McLean	8	Union	3
Edwards	5	Macon	1	Vermillion	1
Effingham	7	Macoupin	7	Wabash	-
Fayette	7	Madison	5	Warren	1
Ford	3	Marion	3	Washington	4
Franklin	2	Marshall	3	Wayne	5
Fulton	10	Mason	7	White	1
Gallatin	1	Massac	4	Whiteside	10
Greene	4	Menard	1	Will	6
Grundy	3	Mercer	6	Williamson	4
Hamilton	1	Monroe	5	Winnebago	4
Hancock	8	Montgomery	4	Woodford	7

Table 37. Distribution of respondents by county of residence ( $n = 745$ ).

County	<i>n</i>	County	<i>n</i>	County	<i>n</i>
Adams	12	Hardin	2	Morgan	8
Alexander	2	Henderson	2	Moultrie	1
Bond	5	Henry	14	Ogle	12
Boone	3	Iroquois	8	Peoria	16
Brown	4	Jackson	7	Perry	2
Bureau	13	Jasper	5	Piatt	1
Calhoun	4	Jefferson	5	Pike	10
Carroll	12	Jersey	7	Pope	2
Cass	3	Jo Daviess	13	Pulaski	2
Champaign	4	Johnson	2	Putnam	-
Christian	6	Kane	11	Randolph	16
Clark	6	Kankakee	10	Richland	8
Clay	4	Kendall	5	Rock Island	10
Clinton	14	Knox	13	St. Clair	12
Coles	4	Lake	10	Saline	2
Cook	16	LaSalle	18	Sangamon	12
Crawford	8	Lawrence	8	Schuyler	-
Cumberland	5	Lee	5	Scott	-
De Kalb	8	Livingston	12	Shelby	5
DeWitt	2	Logan	8	Stark	-
Douglas	4	McDonough	7	Stephenson	16
Du Page	7	McHenry	11	Tazewell	10
Edgar	1	McLean	18	Union	7
Edwards	7	Macon	7	Vermillion	5
Effingham	16	Macoupin	12	Wabash	3
Fayette	8	Madison	13	Warren	3
Ford	4	Marion	10	Washington	7
Franklin	3	Marshall	6	Wayne	10
Fulton	8	Mason	7	White	1
Gallatin	1	Massac	4	Whiteside	14
Greene	9	Menard	6	Will	14
Grundy	6	Mercer	8	Williamson	11
Hamilton	1	Monroe	7	Winnebago	6
Hancock	12	Montgomery	5	Woodford	11



Appendix A

# Illinois Trapper Survey: 2019-20 Season



Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Wildlife Resources  
&  
Illinois Natural History Survey

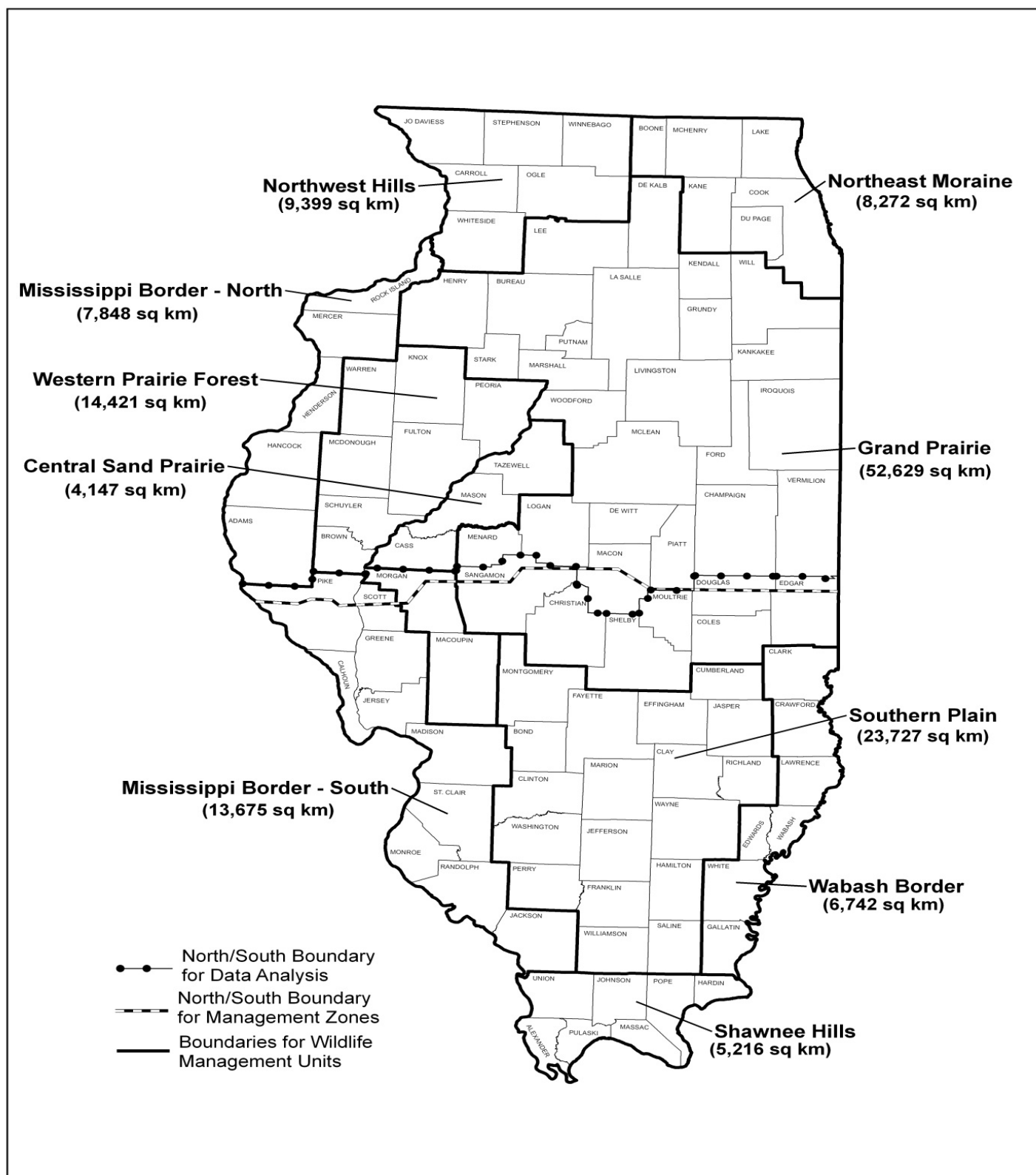


The Department of Natural Resources is requesting disclosure of information that is necessary to accomplish the statutory purpose as outlined under the Illinois Compiled Statutes, The Wildlife Code, Chapter 520. This study is funded by the federal Wildlife Restoration Fund through your purchase of hunting arms and ammunition.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!**

All of your responses will be kept confidential.  
Please return this survey in the postage-paid return envelope provided.

## Wildlife Management Units and Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois



**Section 1. Effort and Harvest.** Please answer the following questions about your furbearer trapping and hunting activities during the 2019-20 trapping season in Illinois.

1. Did you set any **traps** for furbearers in Illinois during the 2019-20 trapping season? (Please check **one**).

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No (Please go to **question 8**)

2. Complete each blank for all species **trapped** in Illinois during the 2019-20 season. Report only your personal catch. If you trapped with a partner, list only your half of the catch. **DO NOT include animals taken by hunting.**

Species	Number Trapped	Number Sold in Illinois	Number Sold or Shipped Out of State	Number Not Sold
Muskrat	_____	_____	_____	_____
Mink	_____	_____	_____	_____
Otter	_____	_____	_____	_____
Raccoon	_____	_____	_____	_____
Opossum	_____	_____	_____	_____
Red Fox	_____	_____	_____	_____
Gray Fox	_____	_____	_____	_____
Beaver	_____	_____	_____	_____
Skunk	_____	_____	_____	_____
Weasel	_____	_____	_____	_____
Coyote	_____	_____	_____	_____
Badger	_____	_____	_____	_____
Bobcat	_____	_____	_____	_____

If needed, please refer to the map on the opposite page to answer questions 3 & 4.

3. In which county did you set traps most often during the 2019-20 trapping season? (Please indicate)

\_\_\_\_\_ County

4. In which zone do you do most of your trapping?      \_\_\_\_\_ North Zone      \_\_\_\_\_ South Zone

5. How many days (or nights) did you set traps during the 2019-20 trapping season?      \_\_\_\_\_ Days (or nights)

6. What was the average number of traps you set on your trapline during the 2019-20 trapping season?

\_\_\_\_\_ Traps

7. On which type of land do you set traps **most often**? (Please select one)

\_\_\_\_\_ My own private property      \_\_\_\_\_ Public property (State, Federal, and other public lands)

\_\_\_\_\_ Private outfitter property      \_\_\_\_\_ Private property owned by my family

\_\_\_\_\_ Private property **not** owned by me

8. What is your opinion of the opening and closing dates for the 2019-20 trapping season? Please circle one number for each date.

	Too early	About right	Too late	I am not sure
Opening date	1	2	3	4
Closing date	1	2	3	4

9. Did you **hunt furbearers** with a gun and/or dogs in Illinois during the 2019-20 season? ☐ Yes ☐ No

9a. If "Yes," **please give the number** of each species taken **by hunting**:

Raccoon  Red Fox  Gray Fox  
 Coyote  Skunk  Opossum

- 9b. Did you hunt furbearers **with dogs** in Illinois during the 2019-20 season? ☐ Yes ☐ No?

10. How many of the following types of traps did you use on your trap line during the 2019-20 season?

Type of trap	Number owned	Number set
Conibear or body-gripping traps	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Steel jaw leg-hold traps	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Soft-catch or padded leg-hold traps	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Cage-type live traps	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Snares (Restricted to water use only)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Other type (Please identify): <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Other type (Please identify): <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

11. Wisconsin and Missouri allow the use of modified land snares called cable restraint. Cable restraints use a variety of safety features to reduce the likelihood of lethal and non-target catches. How much do you disagree or agree that IDNR should allow trappers to use cable restraints on private lands?

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Slightly Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

12. Are **you** concerned that cable restraints would pose a threat to any non-target wildlife or domestic animals?

☐ Yes ☐ No

12a. If yes, to which non-target species do you feel are threatened by cable restraints?

Deer  Hunting dogs  Pets  
 Other (Identify)

13. Are you concerned that **hunters** would disapprove of trappers using cable restraints? ☐ Yes

☐ No

14. Are you concerned that the **non-hunter/non-trapper** public would disapprove of trappers using cable restraints? ☐ Yes ☐ No

15. Did you incidentally catch any bobcats during 2019-20 season? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If No, skip to Section #2)
- 15a. If yes, how many bobcats did you catch? \_\_\_\_\_ caught
- 15b. How many did you release? \_\_\_\_\_ released
- 15c. For which species were you trapping? \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2. Bobcat Permit.** Information you provide will help IDNR manage Illinois wildlife to ensure healthy, sustainable populations.

1. Are you satisfied with the current lottery system for bobcat permits? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Did you apply to the bobcat permit lottery for 2019-20 season? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If "No", skip to question #3)
- 2a. If yes, were you drawn for a permit? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Would you support changing the bobcat permit lottery to make receiving a permit easier for those who did not receive one in the previous year?
- ☐ Yes ☐ No (If "No," Please go to Section 3)
- 3a. If "Yes," would you support a lottery system that accomplishes this change (in #3, above) by preventing hunters and trappers from getting a permit two years in a row?
- ☐ Yes ☐ No
- 3a. What changes do you believe should be made to the bobcat permit lottery?
- 1.) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.) \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 3. Attitudes Toward Trapping.** The following questions will tell us about your attitudes and opinions toward fur trapping in Illinois.

1. Why do you participate in trapping? (Please select all that apply)
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial incentive             | <input type="checkbox"/> To provide a service to landowners    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To preserve my heritage         | <input type="checkbox"/> To control wildlife populations       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational purposes/lifestyle | <input type="checkbox"/> To spend time with friends and family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please identify): _____  |  |
2. What is your **number one reason** for trapping in Illinois? (Please select one)
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial incentive             | <input type="checkbox"/> To provide a service to landowners    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To preserve my heritage         | <input type="checkbox"/> To control wildlife populations       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational purposes/lifestyle | <input type="checkbox"/> To spend time with friends and family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please identify): _____  |  |

3. Please rate the following reasons why you trap on a scale of “Not Important” to “Extremely Important”. Circle the number that matches your response.

	Not Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
Trapping is a central part of my life	1	2	3	4	5
To learn about wildlife	1	2	3	4	5
To control predator populations	1	2	3	4	5
Trapping gives me an opportunity to be my own boss	1	2	3	4	5
Trapping is a fun activity	1	2	3	4	5
To share my experience with friends	1	2	3	4	5
To feel close to nature and the land	1	2	3	4	5
To control disease in wildlife populations	1	2	3	4	5
To remain part of the heritage of trapping	1	2	3	4	5
To share my skills and knowledge with others	1	2	3	4	5
For the independence	1	2	3	4	5
To share my experience with family	1	2	3	4	5
To observe wildlife	1	2	3	4	5
To maintain a rural American tradition	1	2	3	4	5
For the challenge	1	2	3	4	5
To remove nuisance animals	1	2	3	4	5
To provide a service to landowners	1	2	3	4	5
Trapping is my favorite activity	1	2	3	4	5
For the extra income it provides	1	2	3	4	5
To maintain a family tradition	1	2	3	4	5
To interact with others	1	2	3	4	5
To be self-reliant	1	2	3	4	5

**Section 4. Wildlife Sightings.** The furbearer species addressed in the following questions are of special conservation concern to Illinois wildlife biologists. Information you provide will help IDNR manage Illinois wildlife to ensure healthy, sustainable populations.

1. Did you see any badger(s) in Illinois during the 2019-20 trapping season? (Please select one)  
\_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No (If “No,” please go to question 2)
- 1a. If you did see badger(s) in Illinois during the 2019-20 trapping season, in which county(ies) were they seen?  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
County
2. Did you see badger sign in Illinois during the 2019-20 trapping season (Please select one)  
\_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No (If “No,” please go to Section 4)
- 2a. If you did see badger sign in Illinois during the 2019-20 trapping season, in which county(ies) was it seen?  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
County

**Section 5. Background information.** The following questions provide important information to help us understand more about the people who trap in Illinois. Please tell us about yourself by completing the following questions. All responses will be kept confidential.

1. Please give your age. \_\_\_\_\_ Years
2. Please give your gender \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female
3. What is your county of residence? \_\_\_\_\_ County
4. How many years have you been trapping in Illinois? \_\_\_\_\_ Years
5. How old were you when you started trapping? \_\_\_\_\_ Years
6. Who introduced you to trapping?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Father/Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Grandparent \_\_\_\_\_ Sibling  
\_\_\_\_\_ Child \_\_\_\_\_ Friend of mine \_\_\_\_\_ Family friend \_\_\_\_\_ Self-taught  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other (Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
7. Have you ever mentored a new trapper? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No
8. Do you know of anyone who does not trap, but is interested in trapping?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes What are their ages? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ No
9. Do you have internet access in your home? Yes No

**Comments:**



**Federal Aid Project**  
funded by your purchase of  
hunting equipment

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ASSISTANCE!**  
**Please return this survey in the postage-paid envelope provided.**

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources receives federal assistance and therefore must comply with federal anti-discrimination laws. In compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act, the Illinois Constitution, Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act as amended, and the U.S. Constitution, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, please contact the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, Department of Natural Resources, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62701-1787, (217) 782-7616 or the Officer of Human Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. 20240.



Appendix B

## ILLINOIS NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

Prairie Research Institute

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dear Illinois Trapper,

Your name was selected from the list of 2019 Illinois trapping license purchasers. We are asking you to provide information about your trapping activities during the 2019-20 trapping season in Illinois.

**Even if you were not successful or did not trap in Illinois during the 2019-20 seasons, we ask that you please take a few minutes to complete the portions of the questionnaire that pertain to you.**

The information you and other selected trappers furnish our biologists is vital for proper furbearer management and allows us to safeguard furbearer populations while maximizing trapping opportunities. **Your responses are voluntary and completely confidential.** Please take a few minutes to complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it in the postage paid envelope provided.

You may access the results of this and other studies of hunters and hunting in Illinois at <http://www.inhs.illinois.edu/programs/hd/>. You may also find information about Illinois Department of Natural Resources wildlife management programs and wildlife in Illinois at <http://dnr.state.il.us/orc/wildliferesources/>.

If you have questions regarding this study, please call us at (217) 244-5121.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig A. Miller".

Craig A. Miller  
Human Dimensions Research Program



Appendix C

Dear Illinois Trapper,

Recently you were mailed a questionnaire about your trapping activities in Illinois. We have not yet received your response. **If you have already returned the questionnaire, we thank you. If you have not returned the questionnaire, please do so as soon as possible. Your input is very important!**

Your name and address will be deleted from our mailing list when your questionnaire is received. Thank you for your cooperation.

Appendix D

## ILLINOIS NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

Prairie Research Institute  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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Dear Illinois Trapper,

You recently received a survey questionnaire requesting information about your trapping activities during the 2019-20 trapping seasons. We have not received your completed survey questionnaire at this time. If you recently returned your questionnaire, we thank you. If not, we have enclosed a second one for you. Please take a few moments of your time to complete this questionnaire **even if you were not successful or did not trap during the 2019-20 trapping seasons.**

**The information you and other selected trappers furnish our biologists is vital for proper furbearer management and allows us to safeguard furbearer populations while maximizing trapping opportunities.**

Please take a few minutes to complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it in the postage paid envelope provided.

If you have questions regarding this study, please call us at (217) 244-5121.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig A. Miller".

Craig A. Miller  
Human Dimensions Research Program



### Appendix E

FURBEARER TRAPPING REGULATIONS				
SPECIES	Zone	DATES	LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Raccoon	Statewide	10 Nov 2019– 15 Feb 2020	None	
Opossum				
Striped Skunk				
Weasels				
Mink				
Muskrat				
Fox (Red and Gray)				
Coyote				
Badger	North	10 Nov 2019– 15 Feb 2020	2 per person per season	Must possess a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit BEFORE attempting to harvest a bobcat. Must purchase Bobcat Registration Permit within 48 hours of taking a bobcat. Taking bobcats in closed zone is prohibited.
	South		1 per person per season	
Bobcat	See Bobcat Zone map		One by permit only	
Beaver	Statewide	10 Nov 2019–31 Mar 2020	None	
River Otter	Statewide	10 Nov 2019–31 Mar 2020	5 per person per season	
Woodchuck (Groundhog)	Statewide	1 Jun–30 Sep 2019	None	

FURBEARER HUNTING			
SPECIES	DATES	HOURS	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Raccoon Opossum Fox (Red and Gray) Bobcat	10 Nov 2019–15 Feb 2020  Closed during the first and second firearm deer seasons in counties open to firearm deer hunting.	Open 24 hours and season begins 1/2 hour before sunrise on 10 Nov 2019 and closes 1/2 hour after sunset 15 Feb 2020. *see archery restrictions	During Archery Deer Season bow hunting hours for raccoon, opossum, fox, coyote and striped skunk will be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.  Must possess a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit BEFORE attempting to harvest a bobcat. Limit one bobcat per person per season. Must purchase Bobcat Registration Permit within 48 hours of harvesting a bobcat. Taking bobcats in closed zone is prohibited.
Woodchuck (groundhog)	1 Jun 2019–31 Mar 2020. Closed during the first and second firearm deer seasons in counties open to firearm deer hunting.	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	Hunters with unfilled firearm deer permits may harvest coyotes during firearm deer seasons with weapons legal for deer hunting from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.
Coyote  Striped Skunk	Year round, Closed during the first and second firearm deer seasons in counties open to firearm deer hunting.	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. No time restriction 10 Nov 2019–15 Mar 2020	There is no limit on foxes, coyote, opossum, raccoon, striped skunk or woodchuck.

## Appendix F

### Wildlife Management Units and Furbearer Management Zones in Illinois

